

# MACDONALD COLLEGE JOURNAL

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VOLUME 5  
No. 4



DECEMBER  
1944

Farm · Home · School



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"I like rolling my own  
with  
*British Consols*  
CIGARETTE TOBACCO"



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MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUEBEC





## CHRISTMAS — 1944

They were all looking for a King  
To slay their foes and set them high.  
Thou cam'st — a little baby thing  
That made a woman cry!

—Wm. Blake

There has always been something wildly impractical about Christmas, — the festival that sets a simple child in a world of suspicion, hatred, violence and greed and says, "Be like this!" That the world should stop for a while — (and much of it will stop even this year) to pay its respects to this ideal is one of the paradoxes of life. And yet, at the same time, it is one of the hopeful signs, too. No matter in what destruction he is engaged man still yearns for gentleness, goodwill and peace. He still feels that true greatness comes in the guise of purity and decency.

"We must continue to believe in man as builder not as destroyer," pleads a contemporary thinker — and that is a little hard to do just now. We will be helped to do it by recalling the significance of that quiet event in a far-off village many centuries ago which taught the world "a lesson it has never learned but has never quite forgotten: that there *may be* a kingdom where the least shall be heard and considered side by side with the greatest."

But Christmas, too, is the festival of home and the family and on that side it is very practical. It will be marked in countless homes across the world by re-unions of families and friends. If the merriment is still restrained this year — at least there will be a note of hopefulness that has been absent for several Christmases past.

A Journal that is devoted in large part to the enriching of home life will eagerly extend the wish that this Christmas may be as Merry and as meaningful as it can be made.

For there is increasing need to strengthen the ties of family and home in these days. Men and women need,

more than ever, the encouragement that comes from feeling that they *belong* somewhere. Children need, as they always have, the sense of security which only home gives, if they are to develop completely and not be distracted by the fears which beset so much of the world.

On this continent we have been spared the destruction of our homes and have enjoyed a large measure of physical security, but we are threatened in other ways. Security is not only physical; it is emotional too. And there is no substitute for a good home in providing children with an emotional stability adequate to meet the stresses of life in our modern world. Where this breaks down children can be "homeless in their homes and strangers under the sun." The war years have produced many derelicts but none more tragic than the homeless children and the friendless men and women.

The Christmas spirit is nowhere better expressed than in the communities where the effort is made to include these in the warmth of a family circle.

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### The Dominion-Provincial Production Conference

A full report of the conference between officials of the provinces and the Dominion on next year's production programme for farm products must be deferred until our next issue. But one feature of the conference deserves special mention at this time, and that is Minister of Agriculture Gardiner's announcement that the bacon, ham and beef contracts with Britain have been extended to the end of 1946 on the basis of the same quantities and prices as at present in force. This announcement, which means that farmers have a guaranteed market for these products for at least two more years, met with universal acclaim, as was the further announcement that it is the policy of the Government to keep all these contracts renewed as far in advance as possible in order that farmers can plan ahead.

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# What of Those Price Plans

by J. E. Lattimer

Never before have there been so many plans for the salvation of the farmer. It is certainly gratifying that, at last, all parties realize that the farmers' income is a matter of national concern. Unfortunately, the farmer is expected to choose between them. This is difficult because the matter is not always as simple as the advocates of some of these plans appear to suppose. On the contrary, they raise some of the most controversial points in the whole field of economics. It would be impossible in an article of this length to discuss fully all the implications of these varied plans. The following, however, may serve to shed some light on some of the fundamental issues.

There are at present four plans proposed for regulating prices of farm products in the post-war period:

1. Contract Prices      3. The two price system
2. Floor Prices        4. World prices plus bonus

In order to compare these different proposals, it is necessary to examine two points. The first one is the function of price and the second the conditions where these various proposals might be the most applicable.

## What Prices Are Supposed to Do

Prices of both goods and services, which means prices and wages, are factors of importance in distributing income. The importance of the price factor tends to increase as specialization increases. There are also other factors. Possibly sometimes more important than price, is the market for the goods. The possibility of getting a job may be even more important than the wage rate. It might be argued that all know this. If all do, they also present at times evidence of having forgotten it.

In times when goods are scarce price tends to be over-emphasized. When labour is scarce wage rates also receive the greater attention. When markets are well supplied with both labour and goods, the points neglected during the boom emerge.

During this war the income of Canadian farmers has risen due to two causes. One was the rise in unit prices and the other was the expansion of volume produced and sold. In the post-war period these two factors will also be important. These two factors cannot be separated. Any plan of regulating prices must be examined with the possible and probable effect on markets in mind.

## Contract Prices

Contract prices or forward price agreements were applied in some lines in pre-war days. In Britain this practice had spread widely in the pre-war period. The practice, during the war, has been fairly general in other places besides Britain. Now in that country it is proposed to carry on this method for at least four years after the war — with a revision yearly in the light of the statistical position. Contracts running for two years have already been made with Australia in some lines.

Contract prices provide a forward price before the goods are produced. The possibility of revising the contract from year to year — according to the statistical position — provides the flexibility necessary in products as variable in volume of output as farm products are liable to be.

Contract prices are negotiated prices. They are negotiated with the producers before the goods are provided. Such prices amount to producing goods on order. Obviously, this method is more applicable to some lines than others.

## Floor Prices

Floor prices are quite a different approach. The establishment of floor prices in the post-war period implies that there may be prices prevailing that are lower than they should be. Some questions arise: At what level should the floor be set? Who is to set the price? Must some agency supply the market? What volume will be marketable? These questions, it may be inferred, are to be worked out and set forth by a regulatory authority. Undoubtedly this is a formidable task and it does not provide for, or allow the exertion of, as direct an influence by the producer as contract prices.

## The Two Price System

The proposal to sell the surplus in the world market at the world price and supply the difference of that price from the domestic price is *bonusing exports*. This is the plan proposed by the United States. It has had rather a long run in pre-war days in many countries. It is what was generally called *dumping*. This plan invites retaliation from other countries as evidenced at the time of writing when the "Manchester Guardian" has criticized this proposal of the United States.

The two price system depends on what is wanted and the local conditions. Britain started bonusing home grown wheat in 1932. For eight years prior to the war, Britain guaranteed the home producer of wheat \$1.25 per bushel for a limited volume. During this time wheat was purchased in the world market at a much lower price. The United States may sell in the world market at a lower price a small portion of the total volume with a different result on the industry than could a country that wished to export the bulk of the volume provided. The two price system loses in attractiveness as dependence on exports rises.

## World Prices Plus Bonus

A plan allowing all prices, both domestic and export, to follow world prices is now advocated. The difference, if any is required, necessary to make the providers of farm products share equally in the national income in proportion to workers employed is to come from public funds. Any scheme so bold and unorthodox is certain to arouse criticism and questioning.

(Continued on page 31)

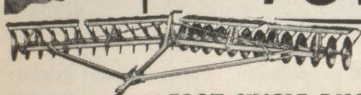


# Tomorrow's *New Science* of Soil Building...

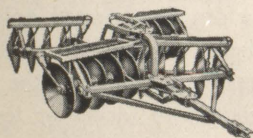


## WITH THE ALLIS-CHALMERS POWER LINE...

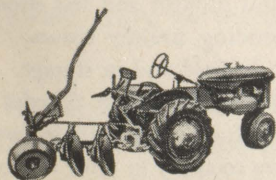
Build your own terraces with an A-C TRACTOR MOLD-BOARD PLOW. Sizes 1 to 4 bottoms. Note "island" of unplowed sod left in the middle of this island-type terrace to prevent washing or break-through of runoff water.



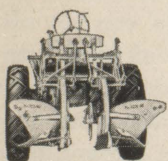
15-FOOT SINGLE DISC HARROW angles by tractor power. Pull one pin and left gang automatically folds behind right for transport.



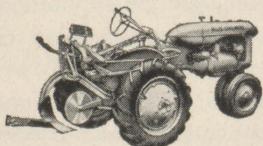
Heavy duty TANDEM DISC HARROWS slice through thick hybrid cornstalks, renovates pastures.



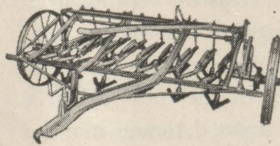
Direct attached TRACTOR DISC PLOW. Specially hardened, rugged discs, specially designed for stony land. Hydraulic lift. Sizes 1 to 3 discs.



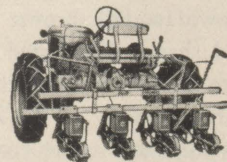
TWO-WAY PLOW laps all furrows uphill forming miniature terraces. Eliminates dead furrow.



Tractor-Mounted PICK-UP PLOW gets in tight corners, irregular fields close to fence. Hydraulic lift.



FIELD CULTIVATOR has duckfoot sweeps interchangeable with spring teeth. Leaves trashy fallow, digs quack, renovates alfalfa.



4-ROW VEGETABLE PLANTER has 100-inch tool bar, any standard row spacing. Smallest seeds to bush limas.

Organic matter in soil is consumed steadily by growing crops. Continuous heavy cropping during wartime burns this organic matter at an accelerated rate.

To rebuild organic matter and guard it from erosion is the greatest single challenge to mechanized agriculture. It forecasts a system of soil-building cultivation, incorporating more roots and humus in the soil to absorb rainfall and stop washing.

The Allis-Chalmers Power Line of quick-hitch implements lays a foundation of sound engineering for this system of farming.

Does your soil type require green manure? Terracing? Cultivation on the contour? A trashy surface to stop blowing and soak up rain? Whatever your region and climate — the Allis-Chalmers Power Line of implements will help increase the fertility, moisture reserve, and productive power of your farm.

Write for *FREE* Allis-Chalmers guidebook "You Have What it Takes To Contour And Terrace". Photographs and diagrams show operations of soil conservation, telling how each is done.

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## AGRICULTURE

*Articles on problems of the farm*

### Borax for Healthy Plants

by J. G. Coulson and L. C. Raymond

There are a number of serious and widespread diseases of certain crop plants which are due to a lack of *boron* (a plant food element) in the soil. All plants require this food element, though some require more of it than others, and when grown in soil in which this substance is not present, or where not enough is present, those plants which are heavy boron feeders develop distinct ailments, due to boron starvation. These ailments are called, aptly enough, boron deficiency diseases. These diseases are usually more common on over-limed or alkaline soils than on acid soils; on heavily leached than on lightly or non-leached soils; on the knolls than in the hollows and in dry seasons than in wet seasons.

Troubles caused by a lack of boron in the soil can be easily and inexpensively avoided by adding borax to the soil, for borax contains boron. But care must be taken in doing so; unless the recommendations are carefully followed, more harm than good may be done, for plants can use only very small amounts of boron, and where too much boron is present the plants may be poisoned by it. Not all crops need the same amount of boron and what is correct for one type of plant might be enough to poison another crop. Often the range between enough and too much is very small, so great care must be used in treating boron-deficient soils. Another factor that must be considered is that the amount of borax required to give control on a heavy soil may injure the same kind of plant if it is growing on a light soil, and more injury is likely to occur in acid soils than in those which have been over-limed or are naturally alkaline.

#### Brown Heart of Turnips and Swedes

The disease known as brown heart appears as greyish brown to dark brown water soaked areas of various sizes and shapes distributed in various patterns on the cut surface of the flesh of the root. The diseased tissues occur only or mainly in the lower portions of the root. When a diseased root is cut cross-wise the browned tissues may be found to vary from a single small patch to as much as three-quarters of the whole surface. A zone under the skin always seems to remain healthy even though the plant is severely affected. In advanced stages the diseased tissues tend to collapse, forming cavities. Thus, at times the root becomes a mere shell of healthy tissues enclosing a single large cavity. Usually there are no external symptoms asso-



Swede plants grown in the greenhouse. *Left*, without boron; *right*, with boron.

ciated with brown heart but occasionally severe brown heart is accompanied by a distinct roughness of the skin. However, in most cases the disease can be detected only by cutting the root open. Brown heart appears first in about mid-season and becomes progressively worse as the root grows; it is rarely found in roots two inches or less in diameter. It does not increase or decrease in storage, but in time the discoloration largely disappears and the diseased tissues become greyish and pinkish and less strongly differentiated from the surrounding healthy tissues. The affected roots decay easily both in field and in storage.

#### Control Measures for Brown Heart in Swedes

Fortunately control measures for brown heart in swedes are neither difficult or expensive to apply in most instances. Borax — the white powdered substance commonly used for laundry purposes — is the material ordinarily used. For the quantities required the application is relatively inexpensive. In wholesale quantities borax costs about six cents per pound.

By far the most common method of application and the one that in the great majority of cases will give satisfactory results is that of mixing the borax with the commercial fertilizer and then placing the mixture in such a way that the seed or young seedlings do not come in immediate contact with it. A machine that will place the boron-carrying fertilizer in a band on either side of the seed and at about the same level is most satisfactory. Placing

*(Continued on page 11)*





## THE WARTIME PRICES AND TRADE BOARD

# FARMERS' BULLETIN

### FARM MACHINERY RATIONING

Until supplies are more nearly in line with consumer demand, the present system of rationing new farm machinery and equipment will be continued. The policy has been endorsed by agricultural authorities as the best method of ensuring delivery of available machinery to farmers most urgently in need of it. To help keep present machinery in operation there is no limit on the production of repair parts and such parts are not rationed.

Farmers are warned not to dispose of old tractors or other rationed farm equipment unless they have a permit from the Board to purchase new equipment next spring.

### SCHOOL LUNCHES

Schools with facilities for serving hot lunches to pupils during the cold weather may apply to a branch of the Ration Administration for registration as a quota user, thereby obtaining ration documents to purchase rationed commodities. Arrangements will be made only for those who remain at school for the noon lunch because of the distance from home, or because of bad roads and weather conditions. Application must be made by the principal or a teacher, giving the number of pupils staying for lunch.

### POTATO STORAGE ALLOWANCE

**(Order A-1430, Now in Effect)**

To encourage marketing of potatoes in January and February, storage allowances have been adjusted in all parts of Canada. Last year addition of this storage charge was permitted from January 6, with monthly increases to June 1. Under the new order the first storage increase of 5¢ per 75-lb. bag was allowed in November. Another allowance of 5¢ may be claimed on December 1, and a third of 5¢ on January 1. There will be no further storage adjustment for February. Monthly increases will be resumed on March 1, but on a reduced scale from last year.

### CHRISTMAS TURKEYS

The Board is continuing its 1943 policy in regard to farm sale of turkeys this Christmas. Primary producers may charge retail prices for turkeys of their own raising which they sell direct to industrial firms for employee Christmas gifts, to purveyors of meals or to consumers. The price charged must not exceed the retail price set in Order A-1310.

### FERTILIZER SUPPLIES

Improved supplies of potash and of animal, fish and other organic substances used for fertilizers have enabled the Board to revoke Orders A-856 and A-870. Larger allocations of potash will permit manufacturers to return to the normal percentage of potash in mixed fertilizers and at the same time meet an expected demand of well over 40,000 tons. Order A-870 prohibited the use in fertilizer of such organic products as bone meal, linseed oil meal, fish scrap, cottonseed meal and bone flour and has been revoked because these products are now more readily available.

Farmers have been advised to get their fertilizer orders in early so that the spring demands can be properly arranged for.

### FEED PACKAGES

Limits on the packaging of feeding stuffs in fabric or paper bags have been removed by revoking Order A-306 which provided that fabric bags should not be used for packaging feeding stuffs in less than 100-lb. quantities and paper bag quantities were limited to five, ten, 25, 50 or 100 pounds.

### CHRISTMAS TREES

Farmers cutting Christmas trees on their own property are permitted to haul these trees in their own trucks beyond the 35-mile limit. Other persons may not haul trees in trucks beyond this distance.

For further details of any of the above orders apply to the nearest office of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.



# The Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Soil Conservation District

by Hartwell E. Roper\*

I am a dairy farmer in southern Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. My farm, like many others in Lancaster county and in other parts of Pennsylvania, has suffered severely in the past from soil erosion, but believe we have found the solution to this erosion problem here in southern Lancaster county.

The first concerted effort to prevent soil erosion in Lancaster county came in 1935, when the Soil Conservation Service established a demonstration project here. Progress at first was slow, for the changes in our methods of farming necessitated by good conservation practices seemed pretty radical. As we grew accustomed to these new methods they became simple enough and were frequently more convenient and more economical than our old methods.

As more and more farmers showed interest in soil conservation it seemed wise for us to petition for a soil conservation district under the terms of the State Soil Conservation Act passed in 1937. We decided at a public hearing in the spring of 1938 to include the 15 townships in southern Lancaster county, where most of the interest in conservation was apparent at that time. Some 400 farmers from this section signed a statement to the State Soil Conservation Board that they were interested in having a district. At a public referendum of landowners in July 1938 the district was voted in, 238 to 97.

Early in the autumn a Board of Supervisors was selected to manage the affairs of the district—two appointed by the State Board, and three selected by the farmers of the district. All the supervisors were farmers from within the district; I happened to be one of them.

Once the district was in actual operation the demonstration project of the Soil Conservation Service was no longer necessary and was discontinued. Under the district program the supervisors sought assistance from several different organizations: the Extension Service, the Soil Conservation Service, the Department of Highways, the State Department of Forests and Waters, the Vocational-Agriculture teachers, and others. Naturally, since the Soil Conservation Service is especially constituted to assist with conservation work, a large part of our work has been done in cooperation with that agency. Under our agreement with them they provided technical assistance, machinery for soil conservation work and a limited amount of trees for reforestation purposes. The other organizations mentioned above have been helpful to the district, each in its own particular way, and as time goes on we hope to broaden the scope of our relationship with each organization.

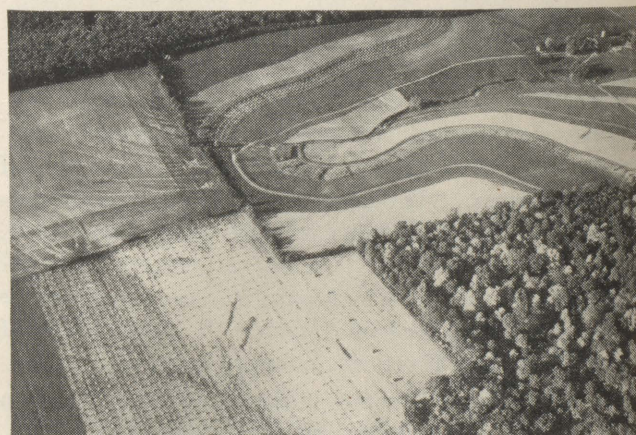
Generally speaking the main purpose of our district is to carry on a broad and effective soil and moisture conservation program for the general welfare of the people in

our district. In carrying out this main purpose the district becomes interested in different fields of endeavor: first, conservation of the natural resources, soil, water, woodland, wildlife; second, proper land use; third, (and this is especially important during these war years), increasing production per acre and per farm; fourth, drainage; fifth, prevention of floods, stream siltation and pollution; sixth, highway maintenance. And all these depend on an up-to-date, comprehensive education in conservation for the people of our district.

We are making progress in our Lancaster District. In slightly over four years we have worked with 383 farmers and planned treatment for 41,994 acres. In 1943, we worked with 110 farmers and treated 10,691 acres, which was an increase of almost 100 per cent over 1942. This increase was accomplished in spite of wartime handicaps. The first months of 1944 show a promising increase over 1943.

There are several features of the soil conservation district program which we like here in Lancaster county. In the first place the district is an entirely democratic organization; it is established only upon a 65 per cent favorable vote of landowners within its boundaries; it is governed by five supervisors who are themselves local landowners and are answerable only to the other landowners; it is empowered to work by agreement with any agency it chooses, but is in no way bound to work with any agency, state or federal; nor is the district controlled in any way by any agency.

Second, the district has borrowed heavy earth-moving equipment from the Soil Conservation Service and is using this equipment to do soil-conserving work within the district. The supervisors have full control of the management and operation of this equipment, and meet the costs of operation and upkeep by charging cooperators a fixed rate



Soil conservation districts help farmers adopt measures such as the diversion ditches and contour strips shown on this Pennsylvania farm. Note the contrasting erosion on the unprotected farm adjoining.

\* Member of Board of Supervisors, Lancaster Soil Conservation District.



per hour for its use. The present rate is \$3.50 per hour for a bulldozer or a tractor and terracing blade. The supervisors provide an operator with each piece of equipment. The purchase of equipment to replace the borrowed equipment is being considered as part of our post-war planning.

This heavy equipment is used primarily for "hurry-up" jobs and for tasks too heavy or too inconvenient for the average farm tractor and small equipment. In this category fall such jobs as the filling or sloping of large gullies, removal of large obstructions, such as good-sized stumps or heavily grown-up fence rows, proper grading of farm lanes when they are water carriers, building of big diversion ditches or diversion ditches on very steep land, and building of water reservoirs.

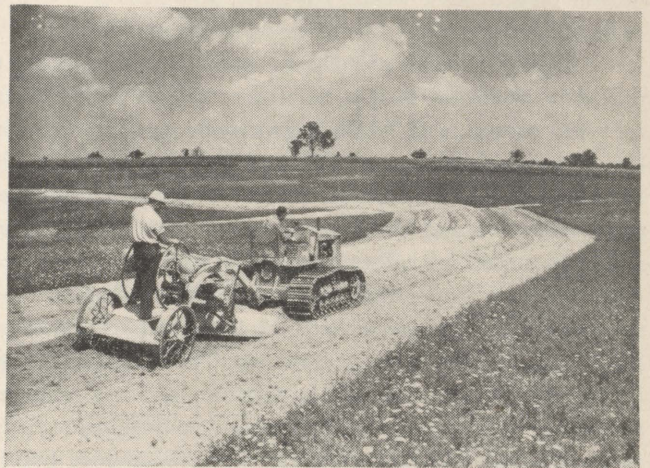
Wherever possible and convenient to the farmer the supervisors recommend the use of farm tractors and plows or light terracing blades for the building of diversion ditches and terraces, and the sloping of small gullies. There are two reasons for this recommendation: first, the farmer can generally do the job more economically himself under average conditions; and second, by doing the construction job himself the farmer learns the principles of diversion or terrace engineering and operation; he understands their maintenance better, and he will generally appreciate their value to him far more.

A third desirable feature of our Lancaster Soil Conservation District is its educational possibilities. The farmers approve of the method which the soil conservation district offers of banding together to educate themselves and others concerning the loss of soil and moisture by erosion and to take practical steps to control this loss. Occasionally we hold a large meeting and invite speakers on soil conservation, forestry, wildlife, flood control and related subjects, have a good moving picture on some form of conservation, and perhaps even make a dinner meeting of it. Such a meeting draws a good attendance and gives good publicity to our conservation work.

Our best educational work is done when a farmer invites a few neighbors into his home and asks one of the

supervisors and a technical man to come in and explain soil conservation. It is then that the real values of conservation can be brought out by questions and friendly discussion and a few pictures or lantern slides.

Finally (and I think this is the most important feature of our Lancaster district and any other district) a soil conservation district is the recognition by a group of farmers in a certain area of the presence of a soil erosion problem and is their effort to solve this problem by group action. This is unified community action to work out its problems by its own initiative. True, the district calls in technical assistance and borrows machinery, but the decisions, the principles involved, the initiative, the effort and the ultimate success or failure belong to the farmers of the district themselves. This is real democracy—the people seeking to solve their own problems by their own united efforts.



Heavy machinery is loaned or rented to soil conservation districts.

## Hand-Loom Textile Business is Built Up

This story comes from El Salvador in South America. The Republic has recently opened a permanent exposition in New York City to promote the sale of a diversified line of merchandise produced specifically for the United States.

The backbone of the Salvadorean move is a co-operative, working to produce merchandise for export. The co-operative, established by the Salvadorean Congress about a year ago, is known as the Federacion de Cajas de Credito. Its members are principally engaged in the production of hand-loomed, vat-dyed cotton textiles. It purchases all raw materials and machinery from American manufacturers needed by the more than 15,000 workers it represents.

After close scrutiny of the national products, and a determination to make these products fit into the American market, the co-operative undertook several tasks. It purchased raw materials domestically and abroad, and introduced new and better production methods. At the same time it studied American merchandising practices.



Erosion from this tobacco field has not only cost the farmer valuable topsoil and part of his crop, but has created an expensive problem for the roads department.



# Summer Tillage for Weed Control

by L. G. Heimpel

The inroads of our more serious weed pests, particularly perennial sow thistle and twitch grass, on Eastern Canadian farms are definitely on the increase. This is due probably in part to the shortage of help on farms, but also in many cases, to a failure on the part of farmers to take this menace seriously. As the grain ripens in many fields large patches of yellow blooms of perennial sow thistle are becoming more and more evident, yet too often they seem to be taken for granted, rather than as a source of worry for the future, which they should be.

Fortunately, the same kind of tillage treatment will handle both of these weeds. Also, the same treatment which will control perennial weeds is effective in controlling a great variety of lesser weed pests. Summer tillage or after harvest cultivation, as it is sometimes called, is the secret of weed control, and, while there may be many reasons for the failure to get more of this work done on our farms, it should be mentioned that too often these weeds are regarded as ineradicable and farm operators are discouraged from attempts at control before they get started. Of course, the only fields in the rotation on which summer tillage can be practised are those which are to be fall plowed in preparation for next year's grain or root crop. This includes stubble fields not seeded down to hay mixtures, and hay fields to be plowed up for grain the following year. It is particularly important that efforts be made to kill infestations of twitch grass and sow thistle in such fields because if only fall plowing is practised it is almost certain that infestation in grain fields will be worse next year.

## Characteristics of Twitch Grass.

Both twitch grass and perennial sow thistle are regarded as perennial plants; that is, once established, they are

capable, through their root system, of remaining alive from year to year in the same way as does a tree. In addition to this, they possess the ability to reproduce themselves very readily and rapidly through their wonderful systems of underground stalks or stems, usually regarded as roots. For convenience, these underground stems will be referred to as root-stalks in this article. There is a widespread belief that these root-stalks have as many lives as the proverbial cat, and it is true that they have wonderful vitality, especially in the spring of the year. Yet it is doubtful whether one crop of root-stalks serves the plant for more than one year. Those who have studied the plants assert that a new crop of root-stalks is sent out from the crowns of the plants during the early summer months and that these new crops of underground stems take up the work where the parent stalks leave off.

Dr. W. J. Spillman, for many years head of the Bureau of Farm Management in the United States Department of Agriculture at Washington, said in an article on the subject some years ago, that to control weeds such as twitch grass economically, their life history should be studied in the same way as we study the life history of insects, so as to attack them at the weakest point in their life history. It happens that the weak point in the life cycle of twitch grass occurs just after the plant has put forth its supreme effort to produce seed, or, from about the middle of June to the end of July. The underground root-stalks have a two-fold purpose; first, to provide a means of propagation of the plant, in addition to that of seed production, and secondly, to provide a storage reservoir for plant food to tide the plant over periods of unfavorable growing weather and for the winter.

This fact probably explains the reason why twitch grass is practically impossible to kill in the spring of the year. If the plant has been left unmolested during the previous fall, its root-stalks will go into winter turgid with plant food. As soon as the soil warms up sufficiently to permit growth the following spring this plant food is utilized to send up green growth of the plant above ground; thus twitch grass, where present in a field, is often the first new growth that appears. We frequently see farmers attempting to clean up a piece of ground badly infested with twitch in the spring of the year, by cultivating the ground to bring the root-stalks to the surface, then hauling them off and burning them. While this method will remove perhaps a large percentage of the root-stalks, it is almost impossible to make a clean job of it and there will be plenty of root-stalks left in the ground to ensure a good crop of the pest in spite of all the work that has been done. In this con-



A heavy infestation of chicory on the crown of a previous plowing. After-harvest cultivation prevents this.



nection, Bulletin No. 244 of The North Dakota Agricultural College entitled "Control of Quack Grass by Tillage" states "Spring tillage and cropping do not result in satisfactory control of quack grass. The time for effective spring tillage and seeding of a crop is too limited in this region to be practised satisfactorily." Dr. Spillman in his writings claimed that to disturb twitch grass in the spring of the year merely prevents it from exhausting its underground root-stalks, but if they are allowed to grow in the normal way until the middle of June, the old root-stalks will be in their weakest condition and can then be killed by common tillage. It is mainly during the summer months that the plant sends out new root-stalks from the crown of the plant, therefore the best method of control is one which kills the old root-stalks and prevents new ones from forming.

Recommendations from various sources for the control of twitch grass vary fairly widely and include summer fallowing, plowing in May and seeding to buckwheat early in June, both of which methods mean that a grain crop is sacrificed in order to control the pest. It is probably better to seed such fields to grain, take what crop can be secured, then commence eradication measures immediately after harvest. The first operation in after harvest cultivation for this purpose should be plowing at a sufficient depth to get under the root-stalks, which is usually not more than four inches, then double discing so as to make the surface firm and level. Where the ground is not too hard and where a one-way disc is available, plowing can be dispensed with as double discing with the one-way usually provides sufficient penetration to get under all the root-stalks. In this case the second discing should be crosswise of the first. In loam and sandy loam soils it is frequently possible to get sufficient penetration with a stiff-tooth cultivator to bring all root-stalks to the surface in two or three strokes with this implement. In this case it is usually best to use narrow points well sharpened as they take less power than the wider "duckfoot" type of point sometimes employed in summer tillage. Once the ground has been loosened up it may be advisable to use a wider shovel for subsequent strokes of the cultivator.

After any of the above treatments it will usually do no harm to allow the field to lie until a small amount of green growth again appears. This growth comes from the nodes of the root-stalks and, if allowed to develop, new crowns of the plant will be formed and new root-stalks sent out. This should be prevented for best results in control. Any method of shallow cultivation which will cut all crowns loose can be followed, and implements employed for this purpose can be either cultivators or the disc harrow, though the latter must be angled sufficiently and possibly weighted to secure sufficient penetration.

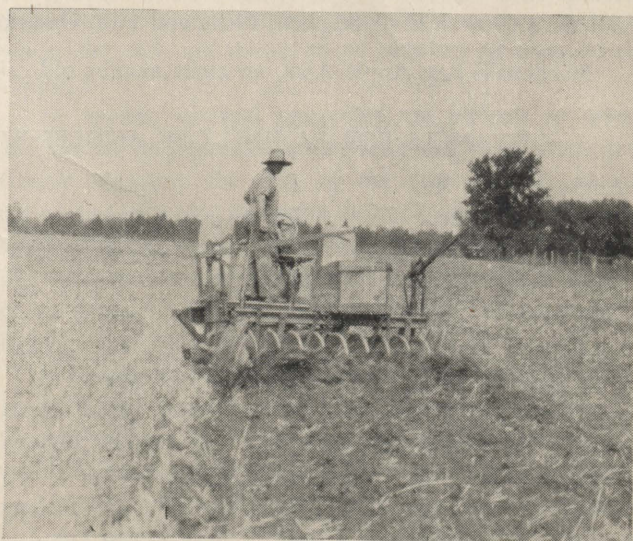
It is plain that if no new green growth is allowed to develop, all the energy for the production of new plants must come from the old root-stalks. This soon results in

their exhaustion and starvation. Once dead, the root-stalks of twitch grass make a valuable source of humus in the soil.

Where both sow thistle and twitch grass occur in the same field, the control for twitch grass will give equally good results with the sow thistle. Also, where Canada thistle is present, the control over this pest will be equally effective. After harvest cultivation also provides a means for the germination of volunteer grain and weed seeds, provided there is enough moisture in the soil to encourage such germination. Periodic cultivation necessary to control twitch grass will also kill weed seedlings that will have come up. By the time fall plowing comes along, therefore, the beneficial effect toward controlling weeds of all kinds will be considerable. Fall plowing should be done as late as possible in the season thus leaving the furrows in as loose and open a condition as is possible when winter sets in. This invites deep and effective penetration of frost which acts as a further means of destruction of root-stalks which still have some vitality.

### Increased Crop Yields Pay for the Work.

Fields which have been after harvest cultivated before fall plowing as above described, will be found to be in much better physical condition than the same land fall plowed out of sod or stubble. Authorities who have studied this subject state that increased crop yields the following year are often sufficient to pay for the extra work of twitch grass control. After harvest cultivation, therefore, can certainly be regarded as a paying proposition. When the ground is hard and the weather very warm, in July and August, it is frequently true that this kind of tillage is a tractor proposition. Yet, many people have succeeded in doing remarkably good jobs of twitch grass control entirely with horse power. Much depends, of course, on the nature of the ground and on the season, but even in seasons where summer rainfall is above the average, good control can be secured by after harvest cultivation methods.



The one-way disc — an ideal machine for summer tillage.



## All-Canadian Holstein Sale Averaged \$1257

Seventy-five head of Canada's top notch Holsteins sold in the second "All Canadian Sale" held at Oakville, Ontario, on November 9th for an average of \$1,257. Last year the first All Canadian consignment sale of selected Holsteins made an average of \$1,037. The animals, this year, were selected from herds from as far west as Alberta and as far east as Prince Edward Island, by the sale management which was in the capable hands of manager and auctioneer, L. E. Franklin, and Secretary, Hugh J. Coulson.

One-third or 25 head of the animals consigned sold for \$1,000. or higher, and of these, six head reached the amazing figure of \$4,000 or better. The top price of the sale, \$5,100, (which by the way was exactly the same as the top price of last year's All Canadian Sale), was paid by R. H. McIlquham, Lanark, Ontario, for the bull calf, Glenafton Rag Apple Alert, consigned by J. J. McCague of Allison, Ontario. The top price of the sale for a female, \$4,800, was paid by H. J. McFarland, Picton, Ontario, for a six year old "Excellent" cow, Montview Artis Pabst Posch consigned by W. A. Hodge, St. Laurent, Quebec.

Breeders from the province of Quebec consigned in all thirteen animals which sold for an average of \$1,970. Only eight bulls, which were all quite young, were consigned and the eight made an average price of \$3,044. Of these two were consigned from Quebec and both were sired by the noted bull Montvic Rag Apple Ajax, senior herd sire at Raymondale Farm, Vaudreuil, Quebec.

Raymondale Dalax, a six month old calf bred and consigned by Raymondale Farm, is a son of the "Excellent" cow Montvic Bonheur Dale. She is a member of the famous All-American "Get" of Montvic Pathfinder and her five records total 81,601 lbs. of 4.31% milk. This young bull sold for \$4,700 to E. T. Stephen, Richmond Hill, Ontario.

Macdonald Rag Apple Ajax, an eight months old calf

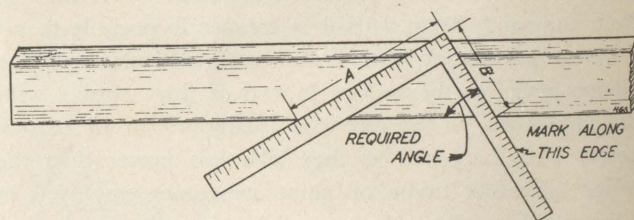
bred and consigned by Macdonald College, is a son of the "Excellent" cow Macdonald Oleana Supreme. Her best year's work was done as a three year old when she produced 22,241 lbs. of milk with a test of 4.39%. In six lactations she has produced 104,573 lbs. of milk with a test of 4.01%. During her seventh lactation she has produced 17,270 lbs. of milk since February 21, 1944, when her son Macdonald Rag Apple Ajax was born. This young bull was bid up to \$3,500 and bought by the Waterloo Holstein Breeders Association of Ontario, Canada's pioneer artificial breeding Dairy Cattle Club.

### How to Lay Off Angles with a Steel Square

When it becomes necessary to cut a board at a given angle, a steel square can be used as follows:

Lay the square across the board to be cut, as shown. The edges which are graduated in eighths and sixteenths should be up. Measure all distances to the edge of the board away from the angle of the square. The distance along the body of the square is called "A", and the distance along the tongue of the square is called "B". All markings should be done along the tongue "B". Values of "A" and "B" to give a required angle can be found in the table.

—Montana Experiment Station Bulletin 398..



MARKING ANGLES WITH THE STEEL SQUARE  
(MARK ALONG EDGE "B")

#### DISTANCES FOR LAYING OFF ANGLES WITH A STEEL SQUARE — (MARK ALONG "B")

| Angle<br>Degree | A<br>in.        | B<br>in.         | Angle<br>Degree | A<br>in.        | B<br>in.        | Angle<br>Degree | A<br>in.         | B<br>in.        |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 30              | 8 $\frac{3}{8}$ | 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 40              | 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 50              | 7 $\frac{3}{4}$  | 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 31              | 10              | 16 $\frac{5}{8}$ | 41              | 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 51              | 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 32              | 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 12               | 42              | 9               | 10              | 52              | 8                | 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| 33              | 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 10               | 43              | 7               | 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 53              | 8 $\frac{1}{8}$  | 6 $\frac{1}{8}$ |
| 34              | 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 10               | 44              | 7               | 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 54              | 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 9 $\frac{3}{8}$ |
| 35              | 7               | 10               | 45              | 10              | 10              | 55              | 10               | 7               |
| 36              | 9 $\frac{5}{8}$ | 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 46              | 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 7               | 56              | 10               | 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ |
| 37              | 6 $\frac{1}{8}$ | 8 $\frac{1}{8}$  | 47              | 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 7               | 57              | 10               | 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 38              | 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 8                | 48              | 10              | 9               | 58              | 12               | 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 39              | 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 49              | 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 59              | 16 $\frac{5}{8}$ | 10              |
| 40              | 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 7 $\frac{3}{4}$  | 50              | 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 60              | 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 8 $\frac{3}{8}$ |



**BORON . . .** (*Continued from page 4*)

the fertilizer below the seed is much more desirable than locating it above. It should never be sown on top of the rows after seeding. Broadcasting the mixed boron and fertilizer may be successfully practised but is not likely to give such precise results and will require more boron to effect the same control. Under some conditions, notably in Ontario in the table stock producing sections, soil applications of boron have not proven effective. In such situations very satisfactory control has been obtained by spraying.

**Rates of Application as Powder or Spray**

Applied as a powder to the soil, there is much variation in the actual rate due mainly to the soil reaction (whether it is acid or alkaline) but also to the moisture supply and the character of the fertilization given, both immediate and previously. For example if barnyard manure has been used liberally in previous years the amount of boron required is not likely to be so great. In the last analysis field trials are the only means of determining the actual requirements. Nevertheless some guidance can be provided showing probable needs as follows:

For acid soils

Good moisture conditions.....15-20 lbs. borax per acre.

Mildly acid soils

Moderate moisture conditions.....25-35 lbs. borax per acre.

Neutral or near neutral soils

Moisture likely to be deficient...35-40 lbs. borax per acre.

Local differences may change the above recommendations but the amounts indicated furnish a close estimate of the probable need.

Supplying borax in solution as a spray calls for very different treatment, notably in the time of application. Where brown heart is in any way severe two sprays are necessary. The best procedure is to apply the first spray when the root has reached a diameter of one and a half to two inches. A check strip — untreated — should be left at this time and if one month after the first spray has been given there is no evidence of brown heart in the check plot a second spray will not be necessary. It is only necessary that the solution should reach the upper surface of the

leaves but it should have an opportunity to dry on to the leaves before a rain.

The spray solution is made by dissolving borax in water at a rate of eight pounds to forty gallons, which provides a saturated solution in cold water. To provide good spreading qualities and insure sticking to the leaves two pounds of bentonite clay and one-half pint of liquid Orvus should be added to the forty gallons. Mix in the clay and strain into the sprayer and then add the Orvus. The 40 gallons should be sufficient to do approximately one acre and the cost of all the materials should be less than one dollar per acre.

**Importance of Brownheart Control**

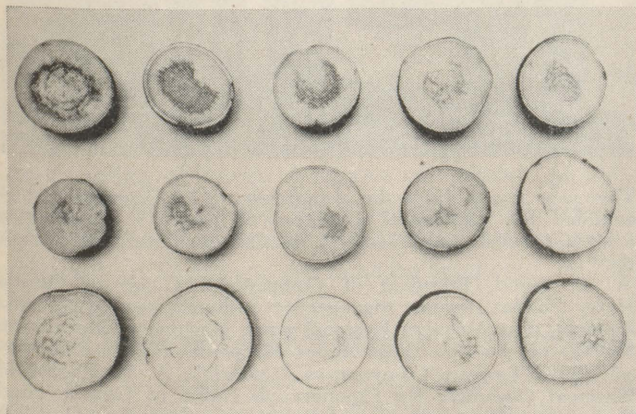
While there is still a long way to go before the role of boron in plant growth is completely understood it is quite evident that where brownheart occurs there is something radically wrong with the plants' nutrition. From the practical standpoint failure to prevent the development of brownheart results in a situation that can be more readily understood.

Particularly where the roots are to be used for human consumption — i.e. as table stock — the presence of brownheart detracts seriously from their appearance but more especially from their palatability. The portions affected do not cook soft but are hard, woody and quite unpleasant when they reach the table. While stock will usually overlook any mild brown-hearted spots, in severe cases they may even refuse the roots and tests have shown that the presence of brownheart does reduce the amount of dry matter, or in other words, the feeding value.

Among the common farm crops, swedes seem to be more severely affected by a lack of sufficient boron than any other, although the legumes in general show a relatively high need. For the time being the swede crop, likely to be subject to brownheart, should certainly be treated as indicated and it may very well be, after further investigation, that the more general use of boron for other farm crops may be recommended, particularly in those districts where the soils are shown to be deficient in their boron supply.

In swedes, external symptoms are difficult to assess and cannot be depended on in mild cases but where the trouble is severe the skin of the root becomes deeply netted and of a greyish-brown colour — even a purple-top swede may lose every trace of its normal colour. Situations like the latter are rare but have been observed in a number of cases where the soil's boron supply was particularly lacking.

Poisoning due to applications of borax are much more likely to be realized when the boron concentration is brought to bear in the seedling stages when the plant is young and tender. Where a high rate of borax has been applied to a crop with a large boron requirement, evidence indicates that there is little, if any, danger of this remaining in the soil in sufficient quantity to affect a crop, even one of low boron needs, the following year.



Various degrees and distributions of brown heart in swedes.





## CO-OPERATION AND MARKETING

*A page of interest to members of farmers' co-operatives*

### Co-operators Celebrate Centennial in Chicago

*by Leonard Harman, General Secretary, United Farmers Co-operative Co.*

"Either we move forward with courage, foresight and boldness on a national basis into new fields, new territories, new commodities and facilities, or we may very well be picked off, one by one, in the devastating competition and attack which will follow this war. This is the major decision that co-operative groups in America must make and make soon."

How these words of Murray D. Lincoln would have thrilled that little band of Rochdale pioneers could they have been present at the one hundredth birthday party of the co-operative movement. Some 35 Canadians — we outnumbered the Rochdale pioneers, of whom there are said to have been 28 — went to Chicago to join with over twelve hundred co-operators from North and South America in the celebration of the co-operative centennial.

It was a great occasion, marked by some great addresses. "Our test flight is over," said Murray Lincoln. "We must put co-operatives into mass production." Mr. Lincoln was re-elected president of the Co-operative League of the United States and was promised the co-operation of America's co-operators in putting his words into action.

#### Co-operative Record

Here is the co-operative record, as summarized by Mr. Lincoln: "We have defeated monopoly on the economic battlefield. We have returned ownership of property to the common man. We have gotten more goods to more people at less cost. We have demonstrated our ability to stimulate purchasing power, the priceless ingredient of a prosperous economy. And we have, by the very nature of our enterprise, sharpened an awareness of the democratic ideals which bulwark our American way of life."

The delegates listened with pride to Mr. Lincoln's recital of the achievements of the co-operatives in breaking monopoly practices in the fertilizer industry; in bringing down the price to the consumer on feeds, seeds and petroleum products; in reaching back into production by the purchase of twenty million dollars worth of mills, factories and refineries in the last twenty years; and the saving of an estimated fifty million dollars to co-op members on purchases made during the last year alone — thereby expanding their purchasing power and augmenting their savings.

Mr. Lincoln asked for a more closely integrated co-operative movement and an expanding, aggressive movement. He wanted expansion of the recently organized insurance co-operatives, expansion of co-operative production.

The delegates responded with instructions to directors of the Co-operative League to seek to unify the operations of the League and National Co-operatives.

#### Challenge to Expansion

One hundredth birthdays don't come every year, and the Centennial Congress marked the occasion with its advocacy of additional investment by individuals and co-operatives sufficient to release "all co-operative enterprises from the bondage of any outside or non-co-operative debt," with its advocacy of expansion of credit unions and co-operative banking facilities.

With its approval of incorporation of an International Co-operative Trading and Manufacturing Association, of a mission to work with co-operatives and UNRRA in devastated countries, close co-operation with UNRRA on reconstruction, promotion of voluntary co-operative health services, close co-operation with credit unions and rural electric co-operatives, establishment of a liability and retire-



This is a group from the delegation of 35 Canadians which attended the Centennial Congress of the U.S. Co-operative League, October 10, 11 and 12, in Chicago. From left to right they are:

W. C. Good, President of Co-operative Union of Canada. Harry Fowler, former Manager of Saskatchewan Co-operative Refinery, now Manager National Farm Machinery Co-operative, Shelbyville, Indiana. Miss Agnes Macphail, M.L.A., a director of United Farmers Co-operative (Ontario). A. B. Macdonald, National Organizer for Co-operative Union of Canada. Hugh Bailey, Vice-President, United Farmers Co-operative (Ontario). E. F. Scharf, Secretary Saskatchewan Co-operative Union. J. J. Seemans, a director of Manitoba Co-operative Wholesale.



ment program and of minimum standards of health, leisure and recreation for co-operative employees.

The Co-operative League's general secretary, E. R. Bowen, said: "We are here to consider how we can do more to build consumers' co-operatives stronger and faster, and thus sooner reach man's long-sought goals of prosperity and peace."

Mr. Bowen recalled another "President Lincoln": "To-day we, the many, are largely the economic servants of the few, as our forebears were economic serfs and slaves. Abe Lincoln once declared, 'There has never been but one question in all civilization, and that is to prevent a few men from saying to many men, "You work and earn bread and we will eat it".' That question is still unsolved.

"We have demonstrated that we have the raw materials and the technical skills to produce abundance. We need only to adopt the co-operative method of widespread distribution. No longer do we hesitate to discard obsolete production machinery — but we still hesitate to discard obsolete distribution methods."

### Cartels Condemned

The Congress condemned monopolies and cartels, and heard a great "trust-buster." It was a thrill at least to the Canadian visitors to see in the flesh the renowned Judge Thurman W. Arnold of the United States court of appeals.

The "monopoly stage" in the industrial development of a nation is a sign of senility in the economic system, Judge Arnold said at the Centennial banquet. Judge Arnold listed monopoly's "seven deadly sins":

(1) It seeks to consolidate industrial power by destroying existing individual enterprise;

(2) It prevents new enterprise from entering the field;

(3) It restricts production and raises prices;

(4) It stops the introduction of new and more efficient methods in order to maintain obsolete ways of production in which it has vested interest.

(5) It sets up arbitrary and despotic control of production and distribution for the security of members of monopoly groups.

(6) It enters politics, using money and economic coercion, and becomes a veritable state within a state;

(7) It forms protective tariffs and makes foreign economic policies for the nation, the purpose of which is to prevent the countrymen of these monopolists from producing and distributing goods.

And, oh yes — we nearly forgot to report that this great meeting of North American co-operators passed a formal resolution paying sincere tribute to the Rochdale Society of Equitable Pioneers who founded the co-operative movement on Toad Lane one hundred years ago.

### Co-Operative Hatchery of Iberville

The first Balance Sheet of this Co-operative Society shows an undivided surplus of \$769.11. During the course of the last year, only fifteen of the forty shareholders sent

eggs to the hatchery for which they received an average price of 84c a dozen. The Society now has assets amounting to \$15,562.79.

At the annual meeting, Mr. Raynald Ferron, Assistant-Director of Services with the Department of Agriculture insisted on the progression of the co-operative movement in the Province. In 1930, the Quebec Co-operative had a membership of 10,000; there are now 45,000 and 544 co-operatives with a business turn-over of 37 million dollars. Mr. Perron emphasized the importance of the co-operation of the Superior Council and \$25.00 was voted towards the maintenance of this organization.

### Market Comments

The surplus of unfinished and poor quality cattle continues, and shippers are advised to hold back all but the better grades of cattle.

This brings into prominence the increase in numbers of live stock that has been provided for market during the war years. With 6 weeks yet to run in 1944 there has been an increase of 234,000 head of cattle, 50,000 calves, 100,000 sheep and lambs and 1,845,000 hogs over a similar period in the previous year.

Live stock numbers on hand on June 1st, 1944, record an increase in cattle, sheep and poultry and a decline in the number of hogs as compared with the previous year.

There appears ample supplies of feed grain for the large numbers of live stock due, partly, to the better grain crops of the current season and partly to the hold-over from the bumper grain crops of 1942.

The United States is paying a bonus of .34 cents per bushel on wheat and 4 cents per pound on cotton that is exported. This does not appear to conform to the clause of the Atlantic Charter which recommends equal access to raw materials for everyone in the world.

### Trend of Prices

|                                                        | 1943<br>Nov. | 1944<br>Oct. | 1944<br>Nov. |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>LIVE STOCK:</b>                                     | \$           | \$           | \$           |
| Steers, good, per cwt.....                             | 11.77        | 11.25        | 11.75        |
| Cows, good, per cwt.....                               | 8.57         | 8.53         | 8.43         |
| Cows, common, per cwt.....                             | 6.42         | 6.58         | 6.25         |
| Canners and cutters, per cwt.....                      | 4.77         | 4.83         | 4.75         |
| Veal, good and choice, per cwt.....                    | 15.88        | 13.75        | 13.68        |
| Veal, common, per cwt.....                             | 13.19        | 10.58        | 9.77         |
| Lambs, good, per cwt.....                              | 11.72        | 11.00        | 11.97        |
| Lambs, common, per cwt.....                            | 9.72         | 6.58         | 6.52         |
| Hogs, B.1 dressed, per cwt.....                        | 16.88        | 17.35        | 17.25        |
| <b>ANIMAL PRODUCTS:</b>                                |              |              |              |
| Butter, per lb. ....                                   | 0.35         | 0.35         | 0.35         |
| Cheese, per lb. ....                                   | 0.21         | 0.21         | 0.21         |
| Eggs, Grade A large, per doz.....                      | 0.50½        | 0.41         | 0.47         |
| Chickens, live 5 lb. plus, per lb.....                 | 0.27         | 0.21½        | 0.21         |
| Chickens, dressed, milk fed A,<br>per lb. ....         | 0.34         | 0.32         | 0.32½        |
| <b>FRUIT AND VEGETABLES:</b>                           |              |              |              |
| Apples, Quebec McIntosh,<br>Extra Fancy, per box ..... | 3.25-3.50    |              |              |
| Potatoes, Quebec No. 1,<br>per 75 lb. bag .....        | 1.60         | 1.10-1.15    | 1.10-1.15    |
| <b>FEED:</b>                                           |              |              |              |
| Bran, per ton.....                                     | 29.00        | 29.00        | 29.00        |





## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec*

*Department of Agriculture*

### FUR FARMING IN QUEBEC

From a radio talk by

Lionel Beaudet

The chief factors which make for success in fur production in any given territory are a satisfactory climate, an assured supply of feed, aptitude and experience on the part of those engaged in the business, and a reputation for quality products. All these the Province of Quebec possesses in full measure.

Our climate, with a relatively short period of hot weather, autumn nights becoming gradually colder, early frosts and November snowfalls, is ideally suited to the production of high quality furs and we need envy no other country in this respect, although climatic conditions in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Michigan are just about as favourable as ours.

As for a supply of feed, here again we are in a favourable position. There are about 154,000 farmers in Quebec and, until our agriculture is completely mechanized — and this will not happen for many, many years — these farmers will have at least 50,000 horses to get rid of each year: and to this we can add some 15,000 or 20,000 horses which are used up in the lumber camps every season. Now, the equivalent of one horse carcass will feed a female fox and her pups for a year, so, if we could set up some scheme to make use of all these horses which are destroyed every year, we could produce 200,000 fox pelts a year or half a million mink. (Our furs farms produced 25,000 mink pelts in 1940.)

Slaughter houses in Montreal and Quebec dispose of millions and millions of pounds of waste every year. And

then there is an inexhaustible amount of fish waste which could be secured from the fishing industry along the rivers in Quebec and Gaspé which would make perfectly satisfactory feed for fur-bearing animals, especially mink. There is no lack of feed in Quebec.

As for the next point, our animal husbandry experts will bear me out when I say that our people have a marked aptitude when it comes to raising livestock. Our farmers who have made such a notable success in raising dairy cattle, sheep, hogs and poultry would have just as much success with foxes and mink. And as for the reputation of our products, the whole world has known for the past three hundred years that the best and most beautiful furs come from Canada.

#### Production Costs

Now to consider the economic side of the picture: the question of costs and profits.

At the Fur Animals Farm School last year, when horse meat was selling at \$5.50 per 100 pounds, we figured that a perfectly balanced diet cost us 4½ cents a day, or \$13.00 per pelt. The price ceilings permit horse meat to be sold for a slightly higher price this year, and we now estimate that each fox pelt will cost about \$15.00. On the other hand, breeders who are in a more favourable location may easily produce fox pelts for \$8.00 or \$10.00. The feed cost for mink is just one-third that for foxes.

Taking the good years with the bad, the careful breeder should be able to average 3⅓ young foxes or 3½ young mink, for each female wintered. If he knows his business and feeds well, he should be able to get an average of \$50.00 for each silver fox skin and \$22.00 for each mink skin. What about the mutations? I know of one breeder, a neighbour of ours, who made an average of \$65.00 on his platinum foxes last January. The market for pearl fox is not yet settled, but prices will probably be intermediate between those for silvers and those for platinums of equal quality.

It will be argued that feed cost is not the only item that must be considered in figuring cost of production. Other things must be taken into account: depreciation of plant, and general overhead costs, may be just as high as the cost of feed. This still leaves a margin of \$22.00 for profits, if the operator is raising silver foxes. Then, figuring that one man can look after fifty female foxes or one hundred female mink and their young, working for himself he should be able to make a net income of not less than





\$3,000 a year. This does not imply that every farmer should start keeping ten or fifteen females. Experience has shown that, just as in poultry keeping, the only enterprise that has any chance of survival is one that is large enough to furnish the operator's entire living. On the other hand, a farmer with a large family, who cannot buy farms by the half-dozen on which to settle his sons, might do worse than to put up the money for a fur ranch for one of them and give him a small parcel of land on which he can set up an enterprise that will soon enable him to become self-supporting. There is room for one or two of these establishments in every parish and opportunities are particularly good near the lumbering and fishing districts.

Following demobilization in 1919, a large number of men found that they had lost their taste for farming during the years when they were in uniform, or had been away from the farm working in war plants. The same thing may well happen again this time. These men, although they may not want to actually farm, will, many of them, still want to go on living in the district in which they were born and brought up. For them, fur farming would seem to be an excellent outlet for their energies.

## Deschambault Farm School Anniversary

On November 6th, 1918, the Provincial Department of Agriculture acquired 300 acres of farmland at Deschambault on which to establish a farm school, and the twenty-fifth anniversary of its founding was suitably celebrated this fall.

The function was presided over by the present director, Mr. Andreae St. Pierre and invited guests included officials of the Department of Agriculture headed by the Minister, Laurent Barre. Among those attending were Narcisse Savoie, J. C. Magnan, George Maheux and A. Auger. Other guests included Bona Dussault, Minister of Municipal Affairs and J. H. Lavoie and S. J. Chagnon, both former directors of the school. Members of the agronomic service and the staff of the farm, some of whom have been with the farm since it was first organized, were also present.

Mr. Lavoie, who was director from 1918 to 1931, described the early years of the farm's existence, explained the circumstances which led up to its purchase and traced the different stages of development made during his term of office. He was followed by Mr. Chagnon who directed the farm from 1931 to 1940, during which time the emphasis shifted from horticulture to livestock. Mr. St. Pierre outlined the work of the farm as it is carried on at present, which makes a specialty of animals of French Canadian breeding.

Hon. Barre stressed the co-operation which must exist between Government farms, the Department of Agriculture and the agronomic service if the interests of the farmer are to be served in the best possible way.

## Junior Agricultural Merit Winners

A junior Agricultural Merit Competition is held every year in the same district as the regular one, with the object of encouraging good farming practices among the young people.

The winner this year was Roland Pelletier of Baie des Sables, Matane County who by scoring the highest number of points won the gold medal and fifty dollars in cash. Second place was taken by Regis Marcotte, Amos, and in third place came J. C. Villeneuve, Ste. Croix, Lake St. John, who won a bronze medal and a cash prize of twenty-five dollars. These winners were all graduates of some agricultural school.

In the second class, open to young farmers who have not attended an agricultural school, the winner was Jos. E. Hudon of St. Ambroise, Chicoutimi. He won a two-year scholarship at an intermediate school of agriculture, a gold medal and a cash prize of twenty-five dollars. Second was Elzear Henry, Bonaventure, who won a year's free tuition, a silver medal and a cash prize of twenty dollars. In third place was Jacques Larose of Barraute, Abitibi East, who won a year's tuition, a bronze medal and fifteen dollars.

The judges were Alex. J. Rioux and H. Lauziere. The winners, Messrs. Pelletier and Hudon, were trained by Gerard Hudon and Henri Tremblay, agronomists.

## The Value of the R.O.P.

During the course of the past summer the Quebec Ayrshire Breeders' Association sponsored a large-scale competition in the course of which the breeders were asked to submit answers to this question — "What are the advantages of the R.O.P.?"

The best essay was received from Marcel Cossette of St. Adelphe, whose prize-winning answer won for him a young bull and two heifers. (Cossette, teamed with his brother Xavier, won the junior judging contest at Sherbrooke in 1943 and the team placed second in the national competition later at Toronto.)

Brother Isidore of Oka has summed up the advantages of cow-testing as follows. It permits the farmer to discover which of his cows are the highest producers of milk and butter-fat; assures a high milk supply; permits proper feeding of the good cows; lowers cost of production by enabling recognition and elimination of poor milkers; serves as a guide when choosing heifers for breeding purposes; starts the foundation of a strong line of good milkers and heavy butter-fat producers; increases the commercial value of male and female reproducers from the herd; serves as a guide in the choice of sires through selection and finally stimulates the farmer's interest and encourages more careful supervision over the health of his animals.



## Junior Judges Do Well at Toronto

Quebec's junior judging teams did well at Toronto this year, placing first in swine judging and second in dairy cattle and in seed potato judging. We had no entries in the beef cattle, poultry or grain projects.

Jean Claude Beaudoin and Joseph Herve Rousseau, of St. Adrien d'Irlande, won the swine judging contest with a team score of 960 points: Beaudoin was the highest individual scorer with 492 points out of a possible 500. The dairy team of Paul Emile Houle and Remi Roy, of Kingscroft, placed second in their division, losing out to the Ontario team, but Houle was second out of eighteen contestants in individual scoring. Only two teams, one from Quebec and one from Ontario, were entered in the potato judging project, and Leandre Routhier and Theo. Turcotte, Baie des Sables, lost out by a fairly small margin.

The contestants were in and around Toronto from November 19th to November 24th. The actual judging was done at the O.A.C. at Guelph on the 21st and took up the whole day. On the 22nd, the contestants visited the Toronto Stockyards, then attended the annual banquet in the Royal York Hotel. On the 23rd they all went to Niagara Falls, and then to Hamilton where they were the guests of the International Harvester Company. The 24th was spent in Ottawa, visiting the Parliament Buildings and the Central Experimental Farms.

The national contest this year was the thirteenth which has been held since the Council on Boys' and Girls' Work was formed in 1931. The continuance of these annual national club contests has been possible only because of the



Herve Rousseau and Jean Claude Beaudoin, winners of the swine judging contest at the National Competitions in Toronto this year.

full co-operation of every member of the Council and assistance and encouragement received from many other sources.

Though all reports are not yet in, it is estimated that there are in Canada this year approximately 35,000 members of junior farm clubs: due to wartime conditions there has been a decrease in membership each year since 1940. Great numbers of young people have left rural areas for the time being, many to enlist for active service, many to take employment in war industries. But despite this and many other problems, interest in junior activities has been strongly maintained by the club members, their parents and the various sponsoring organizations.

## Inspection of Seed Potatoes

According to Bernard Baribeau, District Inspector for the certification of seed potatoes, the most common disease affecting the past season's crops were early blight and late blight. The latter was particularly bad in the Lower St. Lawrence and Lake St. John Districts. All varieties were affected by these diseases except Sebago, which was somewhat resistant particularly when it was grown away from other varieties.

Of the 1856 acres inspected, 874 were accepted, or 52.49%. However, in lots planted according to the tuber-unit plan, on 218.97 acres, 181.59 were accepted, or 83.1%. This method therefore has proven itself to be an excellent means of controlling disease and of obtaining choice seed for next year.

Considering the ease with which the above diseases are spread, officials of the Department of Agriculture strongly advise farmers to use the tuber-unit method when planting tubers.

## Dressed Fowl Exportations

Canada sold 8,406,866 pounds of dressed fowl to Great Britain, and the United States, from January 1st to August 20th, 1944. Of this amount, Quebec supplied 950,981 pounds which is evidence of the rapid strides made in the poultry industry since the beginning of the war, at which time our production could not supply our local requirements.

## Sheep Sale at Ottawa

The Ottawa Valley Sheepbreeders' Association recently held its seventh consecutive auction sale of purebred rams and ewes at the Central Experimental Farm. Fifty-eight rams were sold at an average price of \$24.72, somewhat lower than last year's price of \$34.13. Individual sales, however, went as high as \$55.00. Oxfords were preferred and all males were of XXX quality or its equivalent.

The sale was well attended by breeders from Western Quebec and Eastern Ontario, which gave it an inter-provincial flavour. J. W. Delaney, district agronomist for Hull, president of the association, was in charge as usual.



## Quebec Poultry Industry Exhibition

The Quebec Poultry Industry Committee's Educational Exhibition, held at the Mount Royal Hotel in Montreal on November 22, 23 and 24, was an unqualified success. It was planned this year with the interests of the producer in mind, so the huge attendance which stopped the elevators last year, when it was a consumers' exhibition, was lacking; but many of Canada's most important poultrymen and hatchery owners were present, as well as delegates from nearly every organization in the Province interested in poultry products.

Other distinguished visitors included members of the National Consultative Committee (representatives from each province who act as advisors to the Dominion Government), and three representatives of the British Government who by chance happened to be in Canada at the time: J. A. Peacock, director of egg supplies for the British Food Ministry, his assistant, Eric Southerland, and Dr. E. C. Bates-Smith of Cambridge University. Col. J. G. Robertson, Canadian agricultural commissioner to Great Britain was also present.

Dr. A. M. Shaw, chairman of the Agricultural Supplies Board, was the guest speaker at the luncheon held on the first day of the meetings, and his talk was the keynote for later talks on production by other speakers. He warned that expansion of the poultry industry has probably gone far enough for safety, and that from now on the emphasis should be on efficiency rather than on any increase in volume. W. A. Brown, S. C. Barry and L. D. Bonyman, speak-

ing with reference to particular aspects of the industry, made more or less the same appeal. Their suggestions might be summed up as follows: "Raise better products in order to create an ever-widening demand for them so that they can hold their own in competition with other products: and cut the cost of production by eliminating all waste of feed, material or labour."

H. C. Pierce of New York dealt with building a poultry and egg merchandising programme. Prof. W. A. Maw told of the disturbing effects of low grade poultry products on the market, and Miss Laura Pepper, Consumer Division, Dominion Department of Agriculture, outlined what the consumer wants in the way of eggs and poultry.

Prof. Heimpel gave a most interesting talk on proper poultry house construction, C. F. Luckham, of St. Williams, Ont. had some practical suggestions for feeding and management and Prof. G. T. Klein, of Massachusetts State College, spoke on efficiency in management, stressing the value of labour-saving devices.

On Friday came "Information Please" when a group of some twenty-five experts answered questions submitted during the exhibition. An interested audience listened attentively as each question was read by the masters of ceremonies, then answered by the expert best qualified to do so.

The exhibition was sponsored by the Quebec Poultry Industry Committee, co-chairmen of which are Prof. W. A. Maw and Jacques deBroin.

## The Canadian Horse

The Canadian Horse has existed 300 years on the American continent. Its history and evolution are well known in agricultural circles but the story of its development during the past quarter-century has, for the most part, remained unknown and because of this, J. R. Pelletier has just published a 25-page pamphlet, fully illustrated with photographs, covering 21 years of research work on the improvement of the Canadian horse as carried on at the St. Joachim breeding and located near Quebec. Anyone desiring sound documentary reading on this breed should have this booklet. It does not contain just casual information but is compiled from scientifically controlled data and positive results obtained from practical work in breeding covering a period of 21 years of applied stud. Facts from the St. Joachim stud will be found therein, as well as notes on the importance and development of this breed, best stock types regarding family as well as individual subjects, reproductive methods and the upkeep of breeding stock, results of outside wintering experiments with outside cover-sheds, cost of feed-

ing to increase weight, along with complementary notes on crop production and farm construction ideas.

Anyone in the Province of Quebec interested in raising Canadian horses should not fail to obtain this up-to-date booklet on this subject. It may be had free of charge, by merely writing to the "Publications Bureau, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa." Ask for "The Betterment of the Canadian Horse", by J. R. Pelletier.

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## A Novel Idea

Hoping to encourage the farmers in his territory to send their sons to agricultural school, Mr. Emile Petit, agronome at Gracefield in Hull County, hit on a novel scheme. He made the rounds of the various organizations, the co-operative butter factory, the agricultural society, the young farmers' club and the Cercle Fermiere, and persuaded them to donate money for bursaries. Various public-spirited citizens also contributed generously. In all he raised the sum of \$230.00.

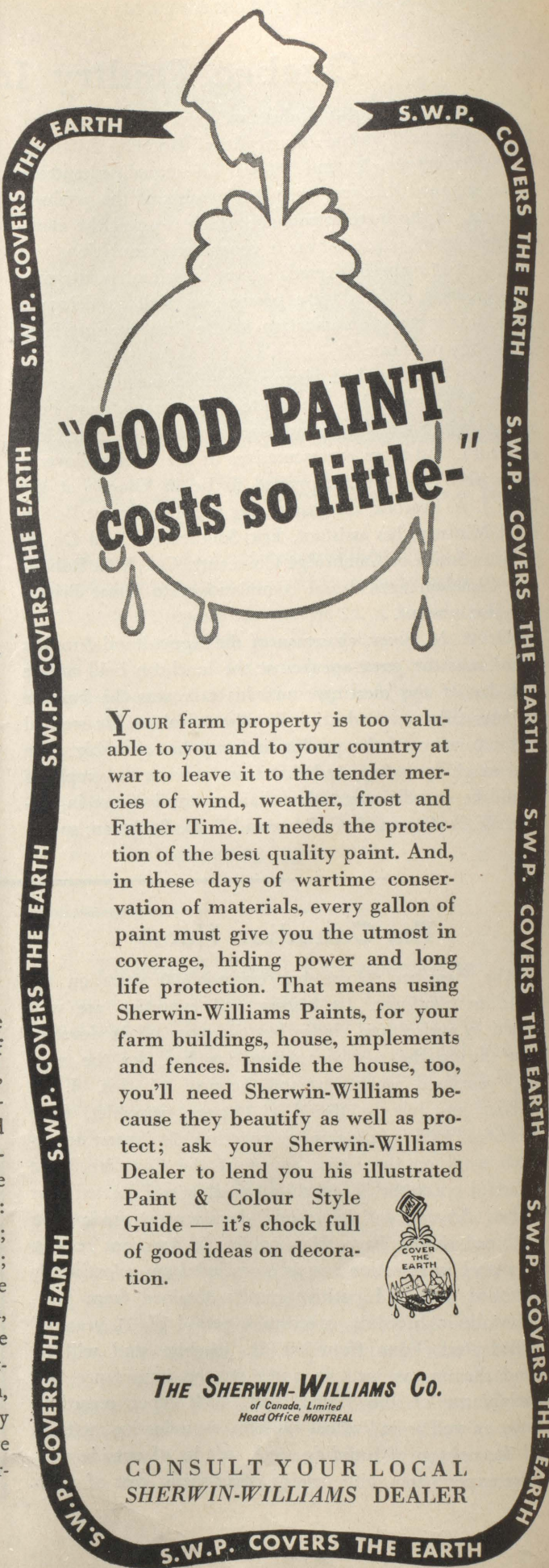
The novelty comes in the manner in which the bursaries were awarded, a method which combined the element of chance with good farming practice on the part of the winners' parents. The names of the winners were chosen by drawing them out of a hat, but the bursary was not awarded to the boy whose name was drawn unless his parents could meet certain conditions. This was the scheme:

1. The first boy whose name was drawn received a bursary of \$66.00, enough to pay his tuition for a year, provided his father is a member of the co-operative butter factory.
2. The second name drawn received \$33.00, provided his father is a member of the agricultural society.
3. The third name drawn received \$33.00 also, under the same conditions.
4. The fourth name drawn received \$25.00, provided the boy is a member of the young farmers' club.
5. The fifth name drawn received \$10.00, provided the boy's mother is a member of the Cercle Fermiere.

The balance of the money was set aside for later distribution among the winners when they have completed a certain period of study. All farmers' sons sixteen years or more of age were eligible to take part in the drawing.

## Warwick Subscribes For Five Bursaries

Five farmers' sons of Warwick, all members of the local young farmers' club, will get a six-months' course of study at the Intermediate Agricultural School of Nicolet, thanks to bursaries recently donated through popular subscription at the instigation of Messrs. Philippe Pepin and Vincent Lanouette, agronomes. Warwick responded generously through its parochial organizations and a few private citizens also contributed. Subscriptions were as follows: Municipal Council, \$4.00; Wilfrid Desrochers, \$27.00; Louis Desrochers, \$26.00; Farm Women's Club, \$10.00; Rev. Father J. A. Leblanc, Pastor, \$24.00; Onésime Kirouac, \$10.00; Léo Pellerin, \$5.00; and Alfred Pépin, \$5.00. Lots were drawn among the 31 members of the Young Farmers' Club desirous of taking up studies. Successful candidates were: Roland Bilodeau, Aurèle Pépin, Gilles Girard, Emile Moreau and Marius Germain. They entered the Nicolet School November 2nd. This gesture on the part of the Warwick population shows the importance they attach to agricultural instruction.



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## Pithy Pickings

by F. S. Thatcher

"The huge wartime production farmers are now turning out will make or break agriculture in the years after the war. If we learn now to use it rightly, it can be the basis of a happier and more stable life than we have ever experienced. If we do not use it properly, it can swamp farmers under a catastrophe even worse than that of 1932."

—Claude Wickward, American Secretary of Agriculture.

\* \* \*

"Strong leadership in agriculture generally, but particularly in agricultural organization is a clamant need of the present time... Ability to grow things is not enough..."

—Queensland Agricultural Journal.

\* \* \*

"Until agriculture can present a unified front to oppose unfair dealing and practices, those who get rich from the sweat of the farmer are going to run his business... and get the lion's share."

—George Sachse, General Manager, Maryland Tobacco Growers Association.

\* \* \*

"An organisation of businessmen in the U.S. known as the National Tax Equality Association is placing that 'nation's farm cooperatives under an all-out bombardment' in an attempt to obtain a law taxing coop. dividends, which, if passed, might result in a 60% dividend cut to cooperators. The author of 'War on the Cooperatives' (R. C. McManus, Association Editor, 'Farm Journal') while making this statement suggests that the 'recent extraordinary growth of the coops.' is a thorn in the flesh to 'old line' businessmen.

\* \* \*

"One of the most serious limiting factors in cooperative development is trained, efficient manpower."

—"News for Farmer Cooperatives."

\* \* \*

Falls Cities Coop. Milk Producers Association has undertaken a programme to keep all its cows "hitting on all four" by a concerted effort to control mastitis. The cooperative has its own bacteriological laboratory which tests the milk from each cow once a month. In-

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\* \* \*

"Settlement should not be planned until the suitability of the soil for the intended type of agriculture has been assured."

—Australian Rural Construction Committee.

\* \* \*

Thanks to the productivity of the Rougemont Cooperative Plant some 500,000 cases of apple juice, fortified with Vitamin C, will be available this winter. (Previously reserved for the forces). It will not be rationed.

—W.P.T.B.

\* \* \*

According to the "Gazette" Agriculture Department officials have told of the importance of whey in providing a source of lactose (milk sugar) used in penicillin production. Macdonald College scientists, however, have devised a new simple medium which produces penicillin as well as any used before but does not require lactose or the other "previously necessary" ingredient "corn steep liquor."

\* \* \*

British breed societies have overcome their conservative opposition to artificial insemination and the Short-horn Society has requested an opportunity to coöperate in this work.

\* \* \*

Export permits for live sheep and lambs are no longer required on shipments consigned for slaughter in the United States or points within the British Empire, which provides sheep producers with an attractive alternative market outlet.

\* \* \*

Production of livestock and livestock products in Canada in 1944 and the export of bacon and beef are at even a higher level than in 1943.

\* \* \*

Larger supplies of potash and of animal, fish, and other organic substances used for fertilizers have enabled the Wartime Prices and Trade Board to revoke two orders restricting use of these products.

The present system of rationing new farm machinery and equipment will be continued until supplies are more nearly in line with the consumer demands.

\* \* \*

Producers of beef in Canada are assured of a market for all surplus beef in Britain for the year 1945.

—Hon. James G. Gardiner,  
Dominion Minister of Agriculture.

\* \* \*

The production of flour in Canada during the past crop year broke an all-time record. In 1943-44, the Canadian milling industry turned out a total of 24.3 million barrels using about 110 million bushels of wheat.

\* \* \*

Nearly 200,000 bags of milkweed pods, the floss from which will be used to make life-preservers for the Armed Forces, have been collected during the past two months by school children in Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba.



Typical of many groups across Canada this group of neighbours within a soil conservation district organize to wage war on soil erosion and to plan more efficient conservation methods.

Soviet education systems are paying dividends to that wounded country by having available a wealth of scientists to provide technical aid and to rebuild and operate laboratories of many kinds in the rebirth of the smashed cities.

\* \* \*

A new method of using penicillin by spraying with an atomiser further broadens the prospect of curative treatments against respiratory infections such as pneumonia.

## STRIPPINGS

by Gordon W. Geddes

The article and editorial in the Oct. issue on soil conservation fitted right in with the Farm Forum's first series. It is a challenging problem of great importance and should have provided some lively discussion particularly in this section. The disastrous floods in the Coaticook district and all the way down the river to Sherbrooke have caused a demand for government action in flood control work. Perhaps the soil erosion angle of these floods is not fully realized. However, damage done by the flood waters involves the removal of large quantities of soil from the farming area where it first fell in the form of rain.

For that matter many farmers had the erosion phase brought to the fore when fields of grain and hoed crops were washed out and gullied by the rain. Some of them stayed too wet to re-seed and every farmer knows the crops are poor if re-seeded not only because the planting is late but because the soil is poorer. Too well I remember numerous occasions when a heavy rain soon after corn-planting would send a stream down every planter track carrying away much of the seed and, worse still, the fertility. We usually tried to replace the seed but could not replace the plant food for that crop at least. As a result the returns were disappointing. And I also remember the year we had a strip of hay across the bottom of the corn-field. That year the wash from the field buried the grass so that we thought it was a loss too. However, the extra fertilizer gave us more hay instead of less. So that was one year that we stopped the wash on our own farm instead of letting the good soil go down the brook. That's the idea of strip-farming.

In one case we used erosion to help drain a wet piece. By plowing and leaving a dead-furrow in the middle, a ditch was started and the wash deepened it. The next problem will be to keep it from going too far. But in this case the ground is so tough and stony that it may not do so. If it does we shall have to get information on getting grass



started to hold the soil in place. Maybe the reed canary grass will do the trick as it is supposed to grow almost in the water. In the meantime we're getting better crops from quite a space.

Of course, the ditch didn't do it all. We put on manure and fertilizer and used a different mixture of seed. Timothy, red clover, alsike, meadow fescue and brome were used. The fescue showed up more than the brome but the latter is supposed to do its stuff better next year. Anyway it gave us four loads of hay to the acre where we didn't get one before.

We're now looking forward to the day when we will open the silo and we haven't far to look for the turnips will last only two more days. Probably one reason for the eager anticipation is the fact that the silage is all cut ready for bovine consumption while we have to cut the turnips.

Walter Keeler has a different idea in the matter of making clover silage. It gets results and that is what really counts. He puts water with it instead of wilting it and gets good stuff. Our experience has been that it is better too wet than too dry but that it will be dark-coloured if it is wet. He also cuts it in the field with a grain-binder which makes it easy to handle. Proof of this is contained in the reference he made to the amount of water used per load. He said 'A three-quarter inch hose doesn't run much water in eight or nine minutes'. With raked hay loaded with a loader, we don't put a load off that quickly. So we can look forward to the post-war time when we may be able to get a forage harvester in to cut the clover. By this I don't mean to own one unless it is co-operatively.

Even before the post-war era we hope to see a bull-dozer making easier work of clearing up our next piece of rough pasture. Then maybe we can doze in the shade for a few minutes while the piece is being bull-dozed. But right afterwards there will be plenty to do for we can't expect even a bull-dozer to miraculously devour all the stumps and stones and leave no trash to be cleaned.

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## THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes  
and to matters of interest to them*

### Why a National System of Education?

by Agnes L. Patterson

A large number of children commence their education in the Eastern Provinces, and before they have completed it may be living in a Western Province and vice versa. In going from province to province they encounter many and varied systems of education. As it is now, each province has its own particular system, and each is trying to have a better system than its neighbour. A child going from one province to another from a higher or lower standard, is either demoted to a lower grade or moved into a higher grade according to his knowledge.

He may be farther advanced in some subjects than other pupils in the same grade, or behind them in others, or may encounter subjects he has never had before. He may have to repeat the grade in order to acquire one or two subjects, or else be handicapped throughout the year.

His school life may thus be completely disrupted and this may have a psychological effect on the child and his future. If he is moved forward and finds his work difficult he may become discouraged. If classed with younger pupils he may lose interest, making difficulties for his teacher as well as for himself, as well as slowing down the progress of the whole class.

Under a national system of education the text books used would be uniform throughout the whole of Canada. Thus a child going from one province to another would find no appreciable difference in his studies.

#### Teachers Would Benefit

This also applies to teachers. Under the present systems teachers going from one province to another must take extra courses before they are allowed to teach, as they are not qualified alike on all subjects. A uniform system of education for all Canada would remove this difficulty. It would be of inestimable value to teachers from the standpoint of knowing their country if they were allowed to move about freely from one province to another and would tend to remove the narrowing spirit of provincialism which is all too apparent in Canada to-day.

#### Adults Would Benefit

A universal system of education would be of great assistance to the business man who must travel from province to province in the interests of his work. A common ground on which to meet his customers caused by an equality of education would do away with many disadvantages under which business men now labour.

#### Benefits of Administration

A system of education which had been accepted by all provinces could be more economically administered. The teachers would benefit, since the raising of the minimum salary would be possible. This would prevent the tendency for young teachers to go into some other occupation, and draw others toward the teaching profession.

The larger school unit in rural areas would be encouraged by a national system of education. This in turn would tend to place the children in rural schools on a more uniform basis with the city pupils of the same age, thus raising the whole standard of education throughout Canada.

#### Branch Gives Hallowe'en Party

Cowansville Branch entertained between three and four hundred children on Hallowe'en night at a party designed to keep them out of more serious mischief. It appears to have been a great success. Games and contests kept the young people busy, these being rewarded with prizes. Lunch was served and a social time enjoyed.

#### A Munificent Gift from Stanstead County

The sum of \$247.30 was handed in to the Provincial treasury from Stanstead County following the annual County Fair, at which a rest-room was carried on by the members of the County, resulting in the raising of this amount. The whole has been handed over to the Queen's Canadian Fund as a gift from Stanstead Women's Institutes.



Taken at the Semi-Annual meeting of Women's Institutes of Pontiac County, by Miss Abbie Pritchard.



## Mrs. Dow Sends Message from Prices Board

The following message from the President of F.W.I.C. who is acting as Rural Advisor to the Consumer Branch of W.P.T.B. contains much useful information

With the war news so bright these days, the newscasts and papers giving us such a lift, everyone naturally begins to look forward to the end of hostilities and the post-war world.

Looking ahead like this, we must not forget to look back also, and remember that it was during the eighteen months after the last war that the peak of inflation came.

### Inflation Danger

We don't want that to happen again. Mr. Donald Gordon, speaking in Toronto recently said, "We must remain alive to the fact that the basic causes of inflation are still with us. There still is a crisis in price control — never was the risk greater than it is now.

"I do not need to detail to you the chaos and misery which inflation would bring upon us. The loyalty that all women have contributed to the cause, bears eloquent testimony to the fact that you realize the danger and have fought against it. Any letdown now would be a gross betrayal of our fighting men, who have a right to expect all of us to see our jobs through."

I expect many of you will wonder what further news we have on children's underwear. Well, this is the picture to date. Although an additional 600,000 garments will be provided this year, there still isn't quite enough to meet all demands. Because there are more babies coming along — regular as Santa Claus — there is increased consumer buying. Besides you must remember that people have more money to spend these days, and naturally they will buy more. Another thing, there are thousands of mothers with young children doing very essential war work who haven't time now to do their own sewing. Consequently they buy more ready-made garments.

Mothers who are buying two of these garments when one will do, or buying one when they really do not need any, are taking a garment which is really needed by some other mother.

### Flannelette Available

A good supply of flannelette is available now. Not all of it is first quality, but it is flannelette. This should be a real help because flannelette can be used for patching children's underclothing, while other kinds of cotton fabric are not warm or soft enough.

Milk is another important question. The farmers of Canada have done a magnificent job of boosting milk production. The 1943 figures show an increase of 540 million quarts above the 1938 figures, in spite of shortages of help and oft-times worn-out machinery to cope with.

### Milk Shortage

Where does it all go, you well may ask. Well, Canada is using more milk than ever before. Fluid milk takes 35% of the entire output. Milk products also claim their share.

Butter alone takes 48% while cheese takes 10% and evaporated milk, very essential for babies and the Armed Services, takes 6% of our milk supplies. Canada has also gone into the production of powdered milk for overseas needs.

Knowing this, we can readily see the importance of striving to keep milk production as high as possible during the winter months.

Most of us farmers' wives have been making over clothes all our lives and we sometimes feel that there is nothing new under the sun along this line. But let me tell you about a few re-make wrinkles that *are* new:

Girl's slacks made from brother's trousers. Washed and turned, they make grand slacks or ski pants. The material is much better than you can buy made up and for cold trips to school, they are the answer to a morning's frosty challenge.

### Made Overs Can Be Bright

Bright touches of wool embroidery too on a little girls' dark dresses tone them up for dull days, and little old-fashioned 'pinneys' made from the good parts of big sister's dirndl keep their little wool dresses clean.

Jumpers for girls are in the news these days. There is a beauty made from a summer coat. Worn with a white blouse these are tops in fashion for any occasion.

A suit for a little boy made from his dad's grey flannel trousers and brightened with narrow red braid caught my eye when I was last in Ottawa.

A dressing gown can be made from small patches of wool cloth, the irregular seams brightened with feather stitching in sail-cloth blue. Remember grandmother's crazy quilts. Well these are along the same lines, and warm as toast for winter mornings.

### Care of Shoes Will Extend Life

Now let me give you a hint about lengthening the life of shoes — a very important matter these days. Dryness is the thing that causes leather to wear out. The suggestion is that leather in shoes can be nourished to lengthen its life. In order to nourish the leather it should be rubbed with neat's foot oil, of which there is a good supply, or some other suitable product. There are several of these products on the markets. Leather which is impregnated with one of these will greatly outlast leather which is allowed to become dry by wearing. Whichever product is used should be rubbed in thoroughly — into the soles particularly. This should be done regularly, perhaps once a week.

You will have obtained Ration Book 5 by the time this letter reaches you. Be sure to keep your Ration Book 3, which contains your canning sugar coupons ("F" coupons 1 to 10) unless you have used or exchanged these coupons already. And keep your Ration Book 4, too. Ration Books 3 and 4 do not expire until December 31, 1944.



## Q.W.I. Notes

### Argenteuil County

The Semi-Annual County meeting of Argenteuil County, held in Lachute High School, was an important gathering, several matters of interest to the county work being on the agenda. The guest speaker was Mrs. Franco Consiglio, popular radio and platform speaker, who gave an able address on Immigration. "Canada," she said, "represented opportunity to all who come to its shores, with all its different interpretations in freedom, financial advancement and happiness."

All branches in the county studied the hospitalization plan recently introduced to the Women's Institutes. Frontier Branch had a talk on Publicity for Canada by Mrs. Wyness, and Jerusalem-Bethany an address on Japanese women. Lachute had an address on the aims of the County Health Unit by Dr. Turcotte, and Lakefield a talk on Health and Welfare by the Convener. This Branch planned to cater to the Farmer's Club Banquet. A member of Mille Isles netted the sum of \$3.30 for the W. I. treasury by a sale of Hollandise ivy plants. The Blue Cross Hospitalization plan was discussed, and a paper on First Aid given. Mr. Lenten Armstrong addressed the Pioneer meeting on National and International Relations, several gentlemen being present. Child Training was discussed in Upper Lachute Branch by the members informally.

### Brome County

South Bolton discussed plans for the Christmas treat for local children.

### Chateauguay-Huntingdon Counties

Dundee Branch entertained the teachers at a reception arranged for that purpose. An address by Mrs. Charles Smallman, Q.W.I. President, featured the meeting, her subject being house-keeping of past days.

### Compton County

Brookbury Branch voted \$5 for school prizes. The sick were remembered with a gift of fruit, and a bride with a "shower." Bury had a talk on health subjects and Hospitalization. The programme for the day featured Norway, the flag of that country being used in decoration. The history of Norway was reviewed in legends and music of the country. Arrangements for the coming of a blood-clinic to the town were advanced. A travelling library was secured, and \$11 voted for school prizes. An address on the Atlantic Charter was heard. A report of a successful School Fair was given and plans made for a sale at the next meeting. Cookshire had as a subject for discussion, National and International Relations. A very interesting paper, prepared by Mr. A. W. Pratt was read by Mrs. J. A. Butler. Scotstown voted \$3 for school prizes. A paper on Unity in Canada prepared by Mrs. J. M. McAulay, suggested one history text-book in all schools as a help in this respect. An interesting programme was arranged by the Home Economics convener, covering favorite cooking recipes, a quiz

on nutrition, and a bread contest with prizes. The entries were sold for the benefit of the funds. Mrs. Hugh Burrows, a departing member, was entertained and presented with a piece of china in recognition of her services. The Rev. G. Reeve addressed Sawyerville meeting on National and International Relations. The meeting was in favour of the Blue Cross plan of Hospitalization.

### Gaspe County

Haldimand Branch donated \$5 to the Salvation Army, and \$36 for prizes at the local Fair. The children's exhibits received \$24 in prizes. L'Anse Cousins Branch studied Child Welfare at the meeting.

### Gatineau County

Kazabazua Branch planned a social gathering. Rupert held a social gathering and planned a Hallowe'en party for the local children. A talk was given by Mrs. Shouldice on waxing of vegetables for winter use. This Branch is purchasing a piano for the new Institute Hall. Wakefield reported the organization of a First Aid class with thirty members. A McGill travelling library was ordered. A paper on Rehabilitation by Rev. William Lloyd, a minister of the Canadian West, delighted his audience with his interesting description of life in Regina, was heard.

This Branch entertained the County semi-annual meeting. An interesting meeting was held, during which Dr. Polinquin spoke at length on venereal diseases, and Dr. Geggie addressed the group on Health Insurance. A resolution favouring physical examination before marriage was passed at the meeting. Wright Branch raised \$32 at a social gathering.

### Huntingdon County

Franklin Centre Branch had an address on "I am going to see the doctor," by Dr. Stalker. Hemmingford co-operated with the Cercles des Fermieres in providing refreshments for the local Blood Clinic. A playlet entitled "A Woman with a Vision" was presented, and a resume of the Branch work since its organization twenty-one years ago was given by a charter member. A splendid contribution of jams, jellies, canned goods and vegetables was sent to Barrie Memorial Hospital from Howick Branch. Miss Janet Armstrong gave a talk on Drama, reciting two poems. Quilt blocks were handed in as a response to the roll-call. Huntingdon had a food sale, the proceeds going to the County Hospital. A paper on Education was given by Mrs. Robb. An exhibition of work done by the fishermen's wives in Labrador for the Grenfell Mission was shown by Mrs. Reese of Athelstan. A travelogue of a trip to Honolulu, given by Miss Emily Kimball, was greatly enjoyed.

### Megantic County

Inverness Branch voted money for school prizes. A discussion on the storing of vegetables proved interesting.

### Papineau County

This County held a semi-annual meeting reviewing the work of the first half year. A paper on Blue Cross Hospitalization was a feature, and was read by Mrs. Archie De-



venny. Musical selections helped to brighten the programme.

#### Pontiac County

This County held a very successful semi-annual meeting at Fort Coulonge. Reports of the tea-room at the Shawville Fair proved that the enterprise had been an outstanding success, and it was decided to carry on again next year. The purchase of a \$50 Victory Bond was decided upon. Miss Fletcher, who was present, addressed the meeting on the Blue Cross Hospitalization plan. Beech Grove Branch was occupied with plans for overseas boys which will appear in the War Services report. Clarendon Branch distributed sewing in aid of the local community hospital. Elmside had a discussion on agriculture. A paper on Thanksgiving was given at Wyman meeting by Mrs. S. W. McKechnie, and the life-story of Miss Fannie Farmer, who compiled the Boston Cook Book was given by Miss Abbie Pritchard. The members assisted at a local Blood Clinic.

#### Quebec County

Valcartier Branch raised ninety-nine dollars at an out-of-doors function. Gifts were sent to two new babies and flowers to the sick.

#### Richmond County

Cleveland Branch made plans for a sale. A chicken-pie supper was held to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Institute, the oldest in Richmond County. Denison's Mills purchased a Victory Bond. Melbourne Ridge sent in blank report form for this report, and a War Services report. Richmond Hill held a social evening. A gift to a lady celebrating her 102nd birthday was sent from the Branch, and a donation of \$10 to the County. Spooner Pond sent \$10 to the Sherbrooke Hospital and purchased a Victory Bond.

#### Rouville County

Abbotsford Branch heard a paper on Inflation by Mrs. J. J. Gibb.

#### Shefford County

South Roxton Branch had a paper on "What Women

can do to Promote Peace," and a discussion on assistance to new settlers. A Hallowe'en supper and social evening was held. Granby Hill held its annual supper to which over 40 sat down.

#### Sherbrooke County

Ascot Branch had a discussion on UNRRA and what it stands for. This Branch catered for the annual banquet of Sherbrooke Ploughmen's Association, also for the supper for the Holstein's Association. Cherry River had a paper on Canadianization and a demonstration on sewing. Belvedere Branch had an address by Mr. Wayne Hall on Progress in Bettering Educational Standards in Quebec Province. Brompton Branch entertained the Sherbrooke Rotary Club at their annual Rural-Urban meeting, and catered for the lunch on the day of the County Ploughing Match. Lennoxville catered for the Rebekah's supper. Prizes were given in the High School. The programme was an address by Mrs. Kuhring on overseas conditions after the robot bombing. A social evening held by Orford Branch was a success. An apron demonstration was held at the meeting.

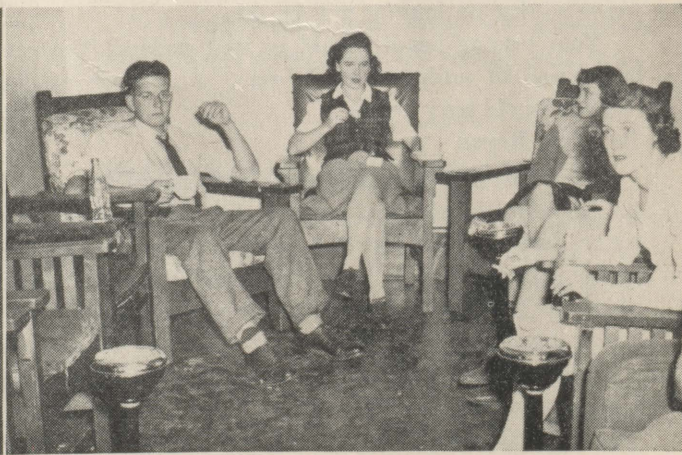
The semi-annual County meeting of Sherbrooke County W. I. was held at Milby, and was addressed by Mr. Pomerleau, Supervisor of the Soldiers Settlement Board. The Veterans' Land Act was clearly explained.

#### Stanstead County

Discussions on the Blue Cross Plan and on Health Insurance occupied the time at Ayer's Cliff meeting. A talk on Democracy was also a feature of the programme. Beebe Branch discussed inoculation for diphtheria and described the clinic to be arranged there shortly. Health talks on the Blue Cross, cancer, and causes of diseases were heard. A collection was made for Wales Home, this including canned foods, was reported. Way's Mills Branch assisted in placing a Memorial Honor Roll in the community hall.

#### Bonaventure County

New Richmond Branch presented seventy books to the local school as prizes. A Chinese spelling contest was held.



#### THE CALL FOR BLOOD DONORS IS URGENT

The procedure is quick, simple and painless and competent doctors will examine you first to make sure you are in good condition. After the donation, a cup of hot tea or coffee refreshes.



# Make Use of Your Iron

by Dorothy A. Morgan

A homemade dress often has a homemade look. And when you hear someone say, "It looks too homemade", it is not complimentary. There are several things which will give a dress or coat an unprofessional appearance. One of the most important has to do with pressing. It is the unpressed fold at the bottom of a dart, the seams which are not quite flat and the extra fullness at the shoulder line which give you away. Press your darts, tucks, pleats and seams before your dress is put together and then the final pressing will be so much easier.

Sometimes you press a dart thoroughly and carefully to get it nice and flat only to turn over to the right side to find a conspicuous line which shows where the dart is. Before pressing a dart, slip a piece of brown paper under it. Then press and you will find no mark on the right side. In pressing seams, especially in rayon and wool, the same ugly line may appear on the outside. Again use paper. Cut a long strip and place it under the full length of the seam before pressing.

Wool is pressed while cotton is ironed. Rayon may be either pressed or ironed. In ironing you run the iron back and forth always following the grain of the fabric. In pressing, you press down with the iron but do not run it back and forth. In all cases do not press over pins. They always leave a mark. If you press over basting thread be sure the thread is very fine or it too will leave a mark.

Pressing cloths should be clean. Many people use a wool cloth to place over wool and then place a damp cloth on top. If you do this use a light coloured fabric on light wools to prevent any dye staining the fabric. A light weight muslin makes a very good pressing cloth. If you buy it new be sure there is no sizing or wax in it for this may mark your fabric. Wash it thoroughly before using to remove any such substance. A pressing cloth should have a smooth weave so that no imprint will be left.

Your ironing board should be well padded. You can buy a pad all ready made. Or use 2 or 3 layers of old blankets or old terry towels.

## To Press Rayon

1. Press on the wrong side to prevent shine.
2. To be really safe use 2 pressing cloths. First place a dry cotton cloth over the part to be pressed. Then dampen the second cloth, which is goods made of cheesecloth, and place over the first. You need dampness to get a good press and using 2 cloths prevents water spots. A low heat is always recommended for rayon, but using 2 pressing cloths, a hotter iron may be used.
3. If your rayon is crepe, do not press too heavily or too much, as that tends to flatten the crepe.
4. If you do not use a pressing cloth, use a warm iron

and test the fabric first on a seam edge. A too hot iron may melt rayon, harden it or give it a shine.

## To Press Wool

1. Do not attempt to press wool without a pressing cloth. A very hot iron will scorch the wool and besides you need dampness to get a good press.
2. As in pressing rayon, use 2 cloths. Place the heavier one (cotton drill is good) on the wool and the damp cloth on top. If the damp cloth is put directly on the wool, it might shrink it. This is desirable in some cases. That is, you might want to shrink the fullness out of the top of a sleeve. In this case use the damp cloth directly on the wool.
3. Press wool hard, unless it is a fine wool crepe. There are special irons for doing this which are extra heavy and require less work on the part of the presser. With an ordinary iron, press heavily.
4. Do not press perfectly dry or it might cause a shine.

## Radio Talks For Women

Mary Northway of the Department of Psychology, Toronto University, will open a series of radio talks on the place of recreation and fun in community life, both rural and urban. These talks, commencing on December 15, will be heard on Fridays throughout the winter until April.

Another series which should be of special interest to women will be "Topical News and Views" beginning on Monday, January 1. The political responsibilities of Canadian women in democracy will be explained in a series beginning on January 9.

## School Lunches in Winter

Country teachers who prepare a hot beverage or serve sandwiches to their pupils at noon can register as quota users to get extra sugar and butter rations. Application should be made to a branch of the ration administration by the school principal or one of the teachers. Arrangements will be made only for those who cannot get home at noon because of distance, bad roads or weather conditions.

## Advance in British Agriculture

The Canadian Federation of Agriculture learns some of the latest facts regarding the wartime progress of British Agriculture. Wheat acreage in England and Wales is 82% higher than in 1930. The area in potatoes has more than doubled and there is an increase of 63% in the area of horticultural crops. Total arable acreage is 63% above pre-war level.



# Parents and Children

by Mary Avison

## "There Was No Room For Them"

Perhaps there is no better time than Christmas for those who have homes and families to remember what it means to be a stranger, an outsider. It is so easy to be absorbed in one's own interests and so fully occupied within one's own group that the loneliness and isolation of others, not so happily established, goes unnoticed. Yet in these years when more people are moving from place to place, when more families are uprooted and seeking new homes, temporary or permanent, under the difficult conditions of war-time over-crowding and the absence, too often, of the husband and father, — in these years more than ever, parents and children need to recognize how bitter such an experience can be, and how much a very small gesture of understanding and friendliness can mean.

Those who have had the experience of moving more than once into a new community, of being the 'new family up the street', will recall the repeated pattern. For the first few days they are the centre of attraction; all the children of the neighbourhood gather to watch their furniture unloaded and to make tentative advances. All eyes are on them questioningly as they make their first shopping expedition or exploratory trip around the district. Those who are friendly come to call and send their children over to play or to offer help. For perhaps three weeks it seems as if everyone is friendly, welcoming and helpful. Then comes the hardest time. Many have made one gesture and satisfied their interest or curiosity but no one has yet become a friend. The children of the community have also satisfied their curiosity; the new children are no longer "interesting" and are still definitely strangers; they belong neither to the gang or to the "fascinating unknowns". They are just "those new-comers" — outsiders.

Children can be very cruel — or very unaware of the hurts they inflict: "No, you can't play — this is our field". "No! Go away — we don't want you!" How frank they are and how unfeeling when they sense a possible rival for their position in the gang — or for the friendship of an accustomed chum. And the new-comers, unsure of themselves, missing their old familiar chums and haunts, are either shy and lonely or belligerent, which, of course, does not help.

Fortunately, however, time does help. Gradually the strangers begin to feel at home. Gradually they begin to be accepted. Three or four months pass and they find they really do belong. But those weeks in between can be a pretty unhappy and difficult time. For those whom war moves often, such experiences, repeated and repeated may seriously damage a child's personality — leaving insecurity and shyness or belligerency and a surface appearance of indifference that hides a bitter loneliness and need for friendship.

Parents, both those who move and those who belong to communities, can help prevent this if they are aware of the problems involved and are willing to make the effort.

In showing friendliness to strangers and newcomers they can save some for the lull after the first few weeks and the rush of settling in. An invitation to go to a club or meeting is much more valued at a time when others have stopped being aware of the need to make the new-comer feel at home.

Parents can help their children to discover common interests to share with new neighbours so they will be drawn into the life of the group. They can encourage friendliness by helping children to be aware of how other children feel and by themselves being courageous in befriending the unpopular and unfriended members of their community, new or old.

Parents can also help their children who have to go through this experience of uprooting. Children who are busy and fully occupied are less lonely than those who don't know what to do. Children who have plenty of hobbies and interests are more likely to find friends because they have interests and activities to share. Children who understand why they are accepted slowly into a compact community group already familiar with one another, are less easily hurt by the times when they find themselves left to the last instead of being the first chosen when teams are picked up. Children who have learned a variety of skills in games (throwing, skipping, hopping, climbing, etc.) fit in more easily and effectively than those who depend on possessions to make their way. However, a new game or toy (such as a foot-ball) does often help to 'make the introductions'.

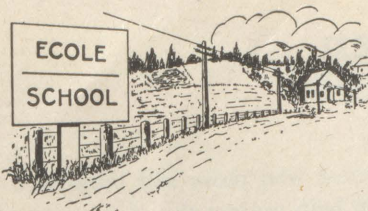
And children who feel secure in their home and family life, who can depend on understanding and backing and love of their parents can bear the stings of being shut out with less harm. They can be helped to make their own group by discovering others more lonely than themselves and by actively befriending those less popular than themselves.

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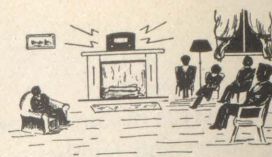
## Remembrance Day Dedication

An impressive Remembrance Day ceremony under the sponsorship of the Wakefield Women's Institute took place in the Assembly Hall of Wakefield Consolidated School on November 10th, when an Honor Roll was dedicated bearing the names of former pupils and teachers of the school who are now serving in the armed forces. The Roll which bore sixty-nine names was prepared and presented to the school and the community by the Wakefield Women's Institute.





## LIVING AND LEARNING



### Reading for Citizenship

by Adele de G. Languedoc

Books have always been weapons of great power in the struggle to advance civilization. It is equally true that their power has been greatly feared by those who wished to prevent the spread of democratic ideas among the people. Hitler and the Nazis were not the first to burn or ban books which they felt were a menace to dictatorial authority. The Roman Emperor Caligula banned the "Odyssey" because he feared the Greek spirit of free inquiry and discussion.

If fascism so greatly fears the influence of books upon the masses, then it follows logically that democracy can and must use books to spread its principles and ideals. Ignorance and prejudice go hand in hand to prevent a better understanding between the peoples of the world; national, racial and religious hatreds follow in their wake. To combat these evils we must educate public opinion, for where there is knowledge there will be understanding.

The question foremost in the minds of responsible people everywhere is how to build a better world, but the task must not be left to the few; it is yours and mine and that of every citizen of that world. In order to be better citizens, we must be better informed on all the questions which will confront us at the cessation of hostilities. Freedom of access to the printed word is one of the blessings of a democracy — in fact one of the freedoms for which we fight. Let us then make sure that we use this freedom; let us make it the concern of every citizen both in the towns and the rural areas to see that books, good books, and plenty of books are available to all. Cultivating one's own garden will no longer be adequate in the years to come. As the war is a global conflict, so much more will our thoughts and interests need to be global to insure permanent peace. Better citizenship can be achieved by obtaining a fuller knowledge of the history, politics, economics, social, cultural and religious life of our own country and of the other nations of the world. This is not beyond the capacity of any one of us for there are books available on

"What all we of the general public have learned from scientists about the importance of vitamins in our diet helps us to understand as never before the life-and-death importance of books in our national life . . . It is, in the last analysis, through books that ideas find their way to human brains, and ideals to human hearts and souls . . . Without good books, plenty of them, and easy of access to all we will starve in the midst of our plenty."

*Dorothy Canfield Fisher.*

all these aspects of the world's development, suitable for every reader. No one need be frightened away from a book because it is too "heavy". Many books on current history and politics which are now pouring off the presses are written in a highly readable fashion. Hutchison's "The Unknown Country; Canada and her People"

and Carr's "The Conditions of Peace" are two examples. It is often possible also to obtain a better idea of a subject through a good novel than from a text book, for in the former the material is more vividly presented in terms of average people like ourselves.

One can learn much of China's life and philosophy by reading a novel such as Lin Yu-tang's "Moment in Peking". Religious tolerance and the dignity of the individual man is well portrayed in "The Keys of the Kingdom" by Cronin. Tolstoi's great novel of Russia, "War and Peace" has still much to teach us about that country whose development in the post-war years will be of increasing importance to the world.

It is obviously impossible for each citizen to know all the answers, but the more answers he is able to find, the better and more useful member of his community, hence of society in general, will he be. If he is a farmer, he can be a better farmer by following the newest developments in agriculture. If he is an industrial worker, he can do a better job of work by reading the technical journals dealing with his particular field. The same applies to every occupation or profession; the lawyer or the housewife, the doctor or the teacher.

The inspiration derived from reading the lives and teachings of the great men who have moulded our civilization can do much toward building a better world. The leaders of the past, philosophers, saints, and reformers can guide us in our search for truth and justice, for they saw visions and dreamed dreams which became the realities of a later age.

The cultural heritage of all countries and all ages is ours for the taking. The value of poetry, drama and the





arts to the fuller enjoyment of life should not be overlooked, for "reading maketh a full man." All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. In the complete life there must be a place for the recreation and refreshment supplied by reading purely for enjoyment and relaxation.

As the future of our country depends on the generation now growing up, let us make sure that the children in our communities are provided with the right books, in order that they may develop good reading habits and continue the search for knowledge, wisdom, and truth all their life long. The library is the people's university. It is the centre of education in a democracy. As continuing self-education is essential to good citizenship, so the public library, free and accessible to all, is a prime necessity. Let us make sure that in our post-war planning adequate provision is made for library service, both urban and rural. Let us exert our rights as citizens and demand it.

## Film Circuits

by Mrs. R. Alex Sim, Film Agent

Fifty-three communities are now served by the Quebec Film Circuits under the National Film Board. Circuit points in Pontiac County have been increased by the addition of a part-time projectionist, Mr. Irwin Smart, to the staff. Mr. Smart is a farmer and a Farm Forum member.

We welcome the newcomers to the film circuits. Granby Hill Farm Forum is the sponsoring group for the showing at Granby, and had their first show on Oct. 30th. They will probably coordinate the two programs. At Kensington the showing is sponsored by the young people's section of the Maple Leaf Grange. They expect to combine the films with a recreation program. At East Farnham, Farm Forum sponsors the showings. They are getting lights in the local

school, but in the meantime are using the church basement. Other new places are: Charteris, Portage du Fort, North Onslow and Stark's Corners.

We hope that all communities will try to build up a good program around the film showings. A speaker, a discussion, or a recreation program along with some or all of the films helps to make this night a worthwhile community project.

## Planning a Party

by Lois Fahs Timmins

First, **Set up committees:** Decoration, Arrangements, Finance, Tickets, Publicity, Music, Refreshments, Program, and Clean-up. Have the committees in on the planning from the beginning. Committees develop future leadership. Outline and itemize the work to be done, with the committees, so that they understand exactly what they are responsible for. Then, leave the committee alone. Nothing kills committee spirit as quickly as a "boss" who insists on having it done his way.

Second, **Map out the Program.** Think of the age and sex of your people. Think of the numbers you will have. Plan the organization so that all will participate. Start with a "welcomer." Then a "mixer." Then games, alternating active and quiet games. Refreshments usually about two-thirds of the way through the program. Finish with a story, special music, dancing, singing or dramatics. End "with a bang". Never let your party die slowly. Sing a farewell song or the National Anthem.

Third: **Check the Details.** Visualize the party from beginning to end. Where will the people come in? What will they do when they come in? Where will they stand? Will they be talking? How will they move? Have you chairs, pencils, paper, lights, keys, prizes, film screen, projector, etc.? Have you checked all arrangements for the Hall? For Assistants? Judges? Projectionists? Musicians?

Fourth: **At the Party.** Have outside cloak rooms, corridors, main room well lighted, and decorations completed before the first person arrives. Manage your party simply but effectively. Don't be a "whistle blower." Never shout or become impatient with people. If things go wrong, figure out what is wrong, and correct it. Don't resign until you've had a good night's sleep.

Fifth: **After the Party.** Clean up the hall. Return all equipment. Thank those who have helped. Meet with the committees to analyze the party. What games went well? Why? Were any arrangements or equipment forgotten? How could the committee work be improved? How may these difficulties be avoided in the future? Make plans for your next party.

For party activities, send in your order for the 2nd edition of **Games and Dances**, a handbook for community leaders. Published by the Adult Education Service. Coming out in December. 50c. Or, write to the Service for information or advice.



## Farm Forum Rallies Popular

The Fall Rallies have become almost as much a part of the Farm Forum program in Quebec as the broadcast.

Rallies have been held at Ayer's Cliff, Cowansville, Herdman, Franklin, Lachute, Shawville, Bulwer, Richmond, Howick, Kazabazua and Wakefield.

### Speakers

Speakers from Macdonald College, in addition to the Provincial Secretary, R. Alex Sim, were Prof. A. R. Ness, who spoke on Livestock Management at Ayer's Cliff; Dr. F. S. Thatcher who spoke on bacteriology at Cowansville; and Prof. H. R. C. Avison who spoke at Herdman and Howick on postwar planning. Two from the staff of Stephane Boily's Veterans' Land Act Quebec organization were Leopold Fortin at Franklin, and D. J. Pomerleau at Bulwer. These two speakers created a good impression and their talks stimulated lively discussion. Lachute had a special treat in hearing Principal Spencer from a rural high school in New York State describe his work in community adult education. Dr. Lois Timmins spoke on and led recreation at Shawville. Frank Shefrin of the Dominion Department of Agriculture Economics Branch spoke on post-war plans for agriculture at Kazabazua.

Members of the agronomes service of the Quebec Department of Agriculture were prominent at almost all these rallies, and the Quebec Council of Farm Forums deeply appreciates their interest and support.

### Pontiac and Argenteuil Plan

Posed with the problem of what to do on Fourth Nights the Forums in Pontiac and Argenteuil move to a speedy and collective solution at their rallies.

PONTIAC, whose groups had studied Mutual Fire Insurance last winter, decided to study on a county-wide basis all the angles on the larger unit of school administration. They did not come out strongly in favour of the larger units, but they did favour better education. They felt this new system should be studied before action should be taken.

ARGENTEUIL had another interesting solution. Their National Film Board film show falls on the Friday night before the fourth Monday night. They plan to select from their film show forty-five minutes of films to be shown from 8 to 8.45. Then at 8.45 following an offer of help from Principal C. Howard Bradford to set up classes in agriculture, home economics and choral singing, they decided to discuss this whole proposal before taking action.

### The Forums Want to Know

A. **Flanders** — Our group wishes to send a protest against the regulations concerning metal roofing material in respect to covering roofs which formerly were covered with wooden shingles. One member of our group is in bad need of a new roof on his barn, but cannot get a permit. It has been explained to the Controller that the barn and contents are suffering from storms which are destroying them. We as a group feel that action should be taken at once as we are asked to produce to capacity, but what is the use when pro-

duce is being destroyed? Wood shingles are almost impossible to get — would not be practical to put on.

B. **Hallerton** — The American market not far from our district wants beef and cannot get it due to Canadian embargo. Our beef spoiled in cold storage here in Quebec last year. Now farmers claim it is not going to market as it should. Why? Cattle sold here weeks ago are still on farmers' hands, as market is flooded and hay is going to be scarce before spring. How long is this condition going to last?

C. **Rougemont** — Would you kindly advise this group as to what happened to the soil survey conducted by Dr. McKibbin (through Macdonald College) about 1936. This survey was conducted for apple orchards.

**Ed. Note:** This excellent pamphlet was published as — Publication 590, Dominion Department of Agriculture, Nov. 1937. It is doubtless still available on application. All apple growers and prospective apple growers should have it.

D. **Kingscroft** — This forum would like to congratulate the parties responsible for the broadcast on "Are Our Soils Worn Out", for presenting the broadcast in a much better manner than in former years. The Chairman especially added to the interest of the group listening. So say we all!

Mrs. David Rodger writes for EAST SETTLEMENT in ARGENTEUIL COUNTY:

"We all enjoyed the broadcast. The discussion was lively, but all agreed that if the farmers had more information on how to go about all these land projects more money to do it with and more help to do it, then they would get somewhere. We then listened to the newsbroadcast, played cards and croquinoles, and after partaking of coffee and sandwiches, the members left for home (long after 10.30) all agreeing that the Farm Forum was a grand way to spend an evening."

Mr. Roy Dagg writes for AUSTIN in PONTIAC COUNTY. "We had a very good meeting to-night and a good discussion about the questions for to-night; everybody was in discussion mood and all thought it would be wise to have a soil survey made of the neighbourhood and let us know what would be the best for to grow".

### What the Forums Think

Replies to all questions naturally vary owing to wide differences between district and district and between farm and farm. The following are of interest:

In answer to the question whether there is land in your neighborhood that should never have been farmed — 20 thought not, but the rest said "yes", giving a variety of reasons, as follows:

Soil too shallow (4); drifting sand covered better soil (1); too stony or too hilly and stony (9); steep gravel hillsides and some sandy flat lands (2); ledgy and low spots (4); poor drainage (4); soil too light (3); sour (2); etc. The opinion was expressed that a great improvement could be made if the government would supply assistance with ditchers and bulldozers.



## PRICE PLANS . . . (Continued from page 2)

(1) Critics have already characterized it as representing "political prices" pure and simple. They want to know who is to say what portion of the national income the farmers should have? In 1943 the best figures available revealed that the farmers secured 14.8 percent of the national income in cash. In 1941 the proportion of workers employed in farming was about 25 percent. Yet in 1941 there were over 40,000 farms classified as part-time farms. These are farms that depend on other sources for most of their income. There were also at that time over 75,000 subsistence farms or farms where the products consumed at home were worth more than the products sold.

If these two groups of farms are added together we have 116,025 or almost one farm out of six. Whether farms of this nature should be allowed to enable their operators to qualify for the proper proportion of the total national income is a debatable point.

(2) If expansion takes place when 25 percent of the workers are employed in farming and the share of the national income is 14.8 percent, then, what may be expected to happen when the proportion of income corresponds to the number engaged in farming?

(3) Are the three-quarters or more of the total who are not employed in farming going to make up the difference between world prices and the bonus necessary to provide farmers with a proportionate share of the national income from the public purse?

(4) What are world prices likely to be? In the early years of the past decade, it was suggested that there was no such thing as a *world price* for wheat. What existed was a series of different prices. This may occur again and that country most dependent on exports will have the lowest price both at home and abroad. The producer would not care how low a price he received from the buyer so long as the difference was sure from the public funds. The tendency would be for the buyer to pay less and less and the public more and more. The effect of the *poor laws* of Elizabethan England would appear to provide a fairly useful historical analogy.

(5) Critics of the scheme maintain that, in particular, so-called "political prices" are not applicable where farming is specialized. One farmer's finished product is another farmer's raw material. How or who is to decide in Canada what the relation of feed prices and live stock and animal products is to be? In this case some farmers are buyers and some sellers. They do not always live in the same section. They say that this arbitrary regulation of prices would be a splendid means of setting section against section.

(6) Some farming activities are more attractive than others. With assurance that a proportionate share of the national income is certain to be provided by public funds, why should not all farmers engage only in those farming

activities that are most pleasant? Why not all of us borrow to grow flowers?

All of this, of course, does not exhaust the question, and the advocates of the varied schemes may be expected to expand their ideas and to explain many things that are not, at present, very clear to most of us. We will all await such explanations with interest and a sincere desire to understand, for, upon the plan, or combination of plans finally adopted, depends the continued health and vigour of our industry.

## Plastic Fur Coats Appearing

A post-war dream come true is the perfection of plastic fur coats, some of which are already in the stores, with others coming up. Put side by side with beaver, safari seal, lynx, fox and mink which they imitate, you can hardly tell which owes its fabulous look to chemistry and which to the trapper's precious catch.

Thanks to the alchemy by which sheepskin can be turned into glamorous "furs"—and to the inventive genius of Jose Calva, a St. Paul, Minn., scientist who perfected the process—beautifully striped, smoky gray beaver and safari sealskin with luxuriant pile, which were once available only to a lucky few women, will now be within the reach of millions. Plastic beaver and sealskin coats now on the market, are priced at around \$150. Glamorous plastic lynx jackets, which will appear in stores soon, will sell for between \$75 and \$100.

Cloth coats trimmed with plastic "fur"—lynx, beaver, fox and sealskin—will soon appear in this parade of miracles, and at a great saving for the woman who wants the look of fur without paying its price. Soon "mink" coats will join the ranks of these fabulous synthetics, and the luxurious effect will be achieved by means of plasticized muskrat.

For the transformation of sheepskin into furs—a process not unlike that used to make fabric wrinkle-proof—both shorn and unshorn pelts are used. Shorn pelts plasticized become short-haired furs—beaver and sealskin. Unshorn pelts become long-haired beauties like lynx and fox.

The sturdy wearing qualities of these coats have been proven in experiments over a period of two years, manufacturers report.

Girls who wore them to test wearability reported regularly to the people who made them, for coat inspection. They were marketed only after their durability was proven to the satisfaction of their makers.

—Fur Trade Journal of Canada.

A man telephoned his doctor: "Come over quick, doc. My wife has appendicitis."

"Nonsense," snorted the doctor. "I removed your wife's appendix three years ago. How can anyone have a second appendix?"

"Listen," cried the husband. "Did you ever hear of anyone having a second wife?"





## THE COLLEGE PAGE

### THE MACDONALD CLAN

*Notes and news of graduates and former students*



Lt. John Somerset Osborne, R.C.E., was awarded the Military Cross in August, 1944, "for gallantry and leadership in cracking the Hitler Line. On May 23, 1944, a Canadian infantry brigade were to attack the Adolf Hitler Line. Lt. Osborne with his platoon of engineers was responsible for clearing a tank gap through the minefields. On the evening previous to the attack he led a mine clearing

party forward through heavy shelling and mortaring to clear mines from the road. So intense did the enemy mortaring become that this party was driven back. Showing complete disregard for his own safety, Lt. Osborne went forward alone and completed the task. The following day word came back that a 13-hundredweight truck had veered from the lane, struck a mine, and was obstructing the gap he had produced the previous night. Osborne led a small party forward again under the heaviest mortar fire. Soon his party was forced to withdraw due to heavy casualties. Again Lt. Osborne went forward alone to clear the obstacle. This officer's actions were largely responsible for enabling the tanks to move forward in close support of the assaulting infantry. His cool, resolved manner and initiative set the highest standard of devotion to duty for all ranks."

Jack Osborne took the first year of the Diploma Course in 1935-36 and transferred to the Degree Course in 1936-37. He enlisted in September, 1939 and went overseas in June, 1940. He has recently been reported wounded in action in Italy.

#### Other Mac Men Decorated

We have record of the following decorations earned by members of the Macdonald Clan, but in most cases we have no information other than the bare fact of the award. Any further details, and names of other students who have been decorated, would be greatly welcomed.

**Sqd. Leader Phil Archer**, R.C.A.F. (B.Sc. (Agr.) 1940), awarded the D.F.C. Sept. 12, 1942. Archer was killed in air operations over Germany on June 17, 1943.

**Flt. Lt. M. A. Brogan**, R.C.A.F., (Diploma Course 1931-32), awarded the D.F.C., December 28, 1942.

**Flt. Lt. D. C. Dougall**, R.C.A.F., (B.Sc. (Agr.) 1939), awarded the D.F.C. July, 1941. Dougall was a prisoner in Germany for some time and was repatriated last year.

**Sqd. Leader E. B. Gale**, R.C.A.F. (Teachers 1937), awarded the Air Force Cross August, 1944.

**F/O. J. B. Hall**, R.C.A.F. (Diploma 1932), awarded the D.F.C. October 17, 1944.

**Flt. Sgt. C. A. Lepine**, R.C.A.F., (Diploma Course 1939-40), awarded the D.F.M. April, 1943. His citation reads: "This airman participated in operations over Europe before being posted to North Africa. He has proven himself to be an efficient wireless operator and has fully contributed to the successes achieved by his crew. Sgt. Lepine has constantly displayed courage and devotion to duty." He is now a prisoner of war after having been first posted missing.

**Lt. D. L. Miller**, R. C. N. V. R., (B.Sc., (Agr.) 1940), awarded the D.S.C. May 4, 1943, "for courage and gallantry in action against an enemy submarine."

**Sub. Lt. K. H. Smith**, Royal Navy Air Arm (Diploma 1938), mentioned in despatches "for conspicuous bravery at the Battle of Matapan", March 29, 1941. Smith was killed in air operations in the Mediterranean area on May 8, 1941.

**Major J. G. Stothart**, Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders, (B.S.A. 1932, M.Sc. 1936), mentioned in despatches.

#### Blood Donor Clinic Visits Mac.

The Canadian Red Cross Society's mobile blood donor clinic visited the College for the third time on November 18th. Students, staff members and residents of Ste. Annes responded well to the appeal for donors: 151 volunteers came forward and donations were accepted from all but 11, which made this clinic the most successful ever held at the College. A total of 52,500 cubic centimeters of blood was collected.



## A Pioneer Policy in Veterinary Assistance to Farmers

The first veterinary surgeon to operate under the "Act to provide assistance to Veterinary Surgeons in Rural Areas" as passed at the 1944 session of the Nova Scotia Legislature, is locating in Windsor and will be practising in Hants County. He is Dr. William Stiles, native of Brussels, Ont., and graduate of the Ontario Veterinary College, class of 1942.

The 1942 class of the O.V.C. is looming large under this Act. The indications are that before long three other members of the class will be located in Nova Scotia, one in Antigonish County, and the other two in Pictou and Lunenburg.

Under the Veterinary Assistance Act any municipality in Nova Scotia may establish a Veterinary assistance Board consisting of five members, two appointed by the Municipal Council, two by the Governor in Council and the Agricultural Representative for the municipality who shall be the secretary. To this board the government and the municipality each contribute up to one thousand dollars a year. The money so contributed is to be used by the board for the purpose of encouraging veterinarians to practise in the rural areas or the more sparsely settled areas of the province.

Hon. John A. McDonald, Minister of Agriculture, in commenting on the workings of this Act, regarded as the most advanced legislation of its kind in Canada, stated that the chief purpose was to make veterinary services available to farmers in all parts of the province and at a cost that would be reasonable. The plan is to have a schedule of maximum fees with the charge to all farmers being the same regardless of the distance they live from the office of the veterinarian. The money placed with the board is to be used in compensating the veterinarian for travelling expenses. "It is to be hoped," said Mr. McDonald, "that other municipalities will take advantage of this Act and that at an early date veterinary services will be readily available in all parts of the Province."

## 30,000 Trees Pulled In Nova Scotia

It is estimated that 30,000 unprofitable apple trees have been pulled this year from orchards in Hants, Kings and Annapolis Counties. R. P. Longley, Agricultural Representative for Kings, stated that to date 15,570 trees have been pulled under the federal bonus policy of two dollars for each tree of 8-inches or over trunk diameter removed from commercial orchards. In addition to this bonus the provincial government has supplied, free of charge, tractor and operator. Of the trees removed this year far the larger number, about 12,000, have been from orchards in Kings County. In addition to the trees removed under the bonus policy which expired July 31, there were removed about

6,000 trees. Another 7,000 or so trees, it is expected, will be taken out before the season ends.

Indications that the number needing to be removed is on the decline is seen in the decrease in the number of removals. Two years ago under the bonus policy, removals totalled 78,000. Last year the total was 53,000 and this year the expectation is for 30,000. Prior to the present policy, there was government cooperation, which resulted in the removal of 80,000 trees.

## Farm Cash Income

The Bank of Canada Statistical Summary for August-September, 1944, gives figures of cash income from the sale of farm products for the calendar years 1926-1943, and for the twelve months ending June, 1944, in totals and broken down for various types of products. The pre-war peak was of course 1928, when the total stood at \$1,063,800,000. From this, it fell steadily to a 1932 low of \$383,500,000, a drop of about 64 per cent. Not until 1942 did it rise above 1928, to \$1,111,700,000. In 1943 it was \$1,406,800,000, and for the twelve months ending June last it was \$1,573,000,000.

It is interesting to note that whereas in 1928 wheat accounted for almost 44 per cent of the total, in 1944 it was only about 19 per cent. Livestock in 1928 accounted for about 38 per cent of the total; in 1944, about 58 per cent. The most notable increases were in hogs, whose value nearly quadrupled; dairy products, which more than doubled; poultry and eggs, which almost doubled. Grains other than wheat, and other field crops, have also become much more important.

## Biscuits

Half again as many biscuits are being manufactured in Canada as in pre-war years—but they seem from the consumers' point of view to be rather elusive and lacking in variety. Consumers may be interested to know these facts on the present biscuit situation:—

Dried fruit, sugar and butter being in limited supply for the use of biscuit makers, there are fewer varieties being made and a tendency to switch from the "sweet and fancy" to the plain, with the emphasis on soda biscuits. Pre-war proportion was 75% sweet to 25% soda. Present figures show 40% to 60%.

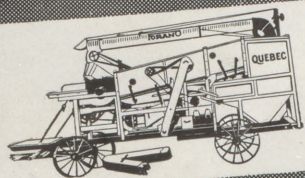
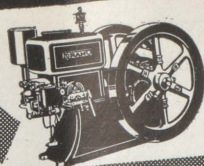
The biscuit has gone to war in a big way. Every Army Mess Tin Ration Kit contains twelve thick biscuits—a sort of cross between a soda and a sweet biscuit. The Air Force puts biscuits in its flying ration; the Navy puts them in the emergency kits lashed to rafts and lifeboats. The monthly order for Allied canteens all over the world may amount to as much as 300,000 pounds of mixed biscuits.



# FORANO

The stationary Gasoline Engine is gradually regaining the confidence of the farmers because time has proved that slow speed stationary engines last a lifetime without trouble. The Forano is an old timer still on the job.

**MOTOR**



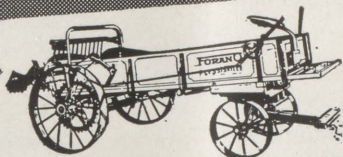
**THRESHER**

The Forano-Quebec Thresher is a well known machine, long appreciated for its simplicity, performance and low price; characterized by a patented screen made in two inversely operating parts—the only machine of its kind.

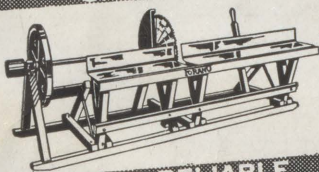
**FARM**

The Forano light weight and light draft Manure Spreader, with a capacity of 40 to 45 bushels, has a wide reputation for its performance with two medium weight horses. Maintenance cost is very low with a Forano Spreader.

**SPREADER**



**SPECIALTIES**



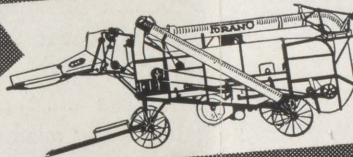
**CORDWOOD SAW FRAME**

Buy a Forano Cordwood Saw Frame. It is simple — heavy — well made and will last a lifetime.

**ARE RELIABLE**

The Forano All-Steel Thresher is our pride. Customers like it for three reasons: Firstly, for its particularly good performance, quality and quantity; secondly, because it is a well built machine; thirdly, because it has a good appearance.

**THRESHER**



**ROOT CUTTER**

Forano Root Cutter can be driven by hand or motor. It is roller bearing mounted, rendering it easy to operate.

**FREE CATALOGUE ON REQUEST**

**THE PLESSISVILLE FOUNDRY**  
PLESSISVILLE P.Q. CANADA  
*Makers of FORANO Products since 1873*



## Season's Greetings



We of Plessisville Foundry share the hopes of you, our customers and friends, that the time will soon come when we will be able to supply all your requirements of farm machinery. At present war-time needs for steel allow the manufacture of only the most necessary machines, and even these may be sold only under permit in most cases.

But when the restrictions are lifted and you are able to replace your worn-out implements, we will be ready to serve you as in the past. And in the meantime, we extend to everyone our very best wishes for the holiday season.

*The Plessisville Foundry*  
Plessisville, P.Q., Canada  
Makers of Forano Products since 1873